MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

26 JUNE 1981

Israel

In a debate between Prime Minister Menahem Begin and Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres, a recording of which was broadcast by Jerusalem television, the prime minister spoke of the government's "redeeming decision" to destroy Iraq's nuclear reactor, claiming that Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's recent appeal to the Arabs for assistance in producing nuclear arms with which to attack Israel showed the real danger to the State of Israel. Peres responded that he has no doubt that Iraq wants a nuclear bomb and that Israel must act against it, but he asserted, without elaborating, that his views on the best way to proceed are fundamentally different from Begin's. He charged that Begin had put Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat in an intolerable and unnecessary situation by meeting with him 3 days prior to the bombing, to which Begin responded that he could not divulge a confidential military secret to As-Sadat that might have endangered lives. Responding to Begin's remarks that Israel will allow U.S. special envoy Philip Habib to exhaust the political process in his efforts to end the Syrian missile crisis but will use military means to remove the missiles if they are not moved through diplomatic means, Peres said the Alignment would allow the political process to run its course without inflammatory speeches. Questioned on the suspension of the autonomy talks, Peres said he is ready to begin negotiations on autonomy in the Gaza Strip at once. He mentioned two serious problems concerning the negotiations: Israel's narrow width from the Mediterranean Sea to the West Bank and resultant security problems; the size of the non-Jewish population on the West Bank. The prime minister pointed out that the Egyptians had suspended the autonomy talks until after the elections, and he revealed that Israel has a proposal to make regarding the autonomy.

Multinational Force

According to Cairo radio, Egyptian Vice President Husni Mubarak announced that Egypt, Israel and the United States will sign the agreement on the establishment of the multinational force in the Sinai on 5 July in London. Jerusalem radio reported that the agreement will then be submitted to the governments of the three signatories for their approval. According to IDF radio, the force will include ground units as well as air and sea patrols. It reported that the supervisory force will be composed of some 2,500 soldiers, approximately 1,000 of whom will be American, and said the establishment and maintenance of the force will be financed by all three countries. It also said experts will assess the value of the installations that the IDF will leave behind in the Sinai and this sum will be deducted from Israel's share. MENA reported that the multinational force will not exceed 2,000 men.

Iran

KEYHAN on Presidential Election--According to Tehran radio, the daily KEYHAN reported that Interior Minister Mohammad Reza Mahdavi-Kani disclosed that he has asked the Provisional Presidential Council to postpone the presidential election for 1 week so that his ministry can carry out the necessary preparations. KEYHAN also reported that political circles have been mentioning Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i as a possible candidate, and it speculated that the Islamic Republican Party and other fundamentalist groups will nominate a joint candidate for the presidency.

Rafsanjani on Armed Forces--In remarks at Kerman airport, reported by Tehran radio, Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani claimed that Iran's military commanders have said they are more at ease now and have been "saved from walking the tightrope" by the dismissal of Bani-Sadr as president and armed forces commander. Rafsanjani said the morale of the armed forces is much stronger now than it was 2 weeks ago.

Kurdish Attack, Government Reprisals--Tehran radio reported that Kurdish Democratic Party [KDP] peshmerga opened fire at civilians and revolutionary guards attending a funeral ceremony in Mahabad. Six people were killed and many wounded, including the governor of the city, which is in the heart of Iranian Kordestan. The radio reported on 26 June that eight "counterrevolutionaries" and members of "illegal armed groups" were executed in Urumiyeh at dawn on charges related to the incident and to the KDP-sponsored armed uprising against the Islamic Republic.

Lebanese Crisis

Security Situation--Beirut radio reported that in a telephone conversation Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad agreed to stop the situation from deteriorating further in and around Zahlah by consolidating the cease-fire agreements. The radio said a new cease-fire would take effect in Zahlah on the afternoon of 25 June, and the Voice of Lebanon radio later confirmed that the cease-fire had taken effect. Earlier, the Voice of Lebanon reported that the inhabitants of Zahlah had appealed to the International Red Cross for medical assistance and to put a stop to the "massacre." Describing the situation in their city as "very grave," they said that Syrian shelling over a 20-hour period had killed 6 persons and wounded 40, many of whose lives are in danger without outside medical help. Beirut radio reported that shells also fell intermittently on the Christian-held Kasrawan area, north of Beirut.

Habib Mission--Beirut radio reported that U.S. special envoy Philip Habib left Beirut for Washington. Noting that Habib said he will resume his mission after the Israeli elections, the Syrian daily TISHRIN said Habib has been making efforts in the wrong direction. In its commentary, reported by Damascus radio, TISHRIN asserted that the U.S. viewpoint on the Lebanese crisis is identical to that of Israel. The United States accepts the Israeli argument that Syria's SAM missiles in the Al-Biqa' valley threaten Israeli security, even though Syria launches the missiles only against hostile planes that threaten its deterrent forces, which are legitimately in Lebanon in accordance with Lebanese, Arab and international approval. On the other hand, TISHRIN went on, the United States believes that Israel threatens no one and considers all its aggressive acts to be legitimate. TISHRIN said Syria will receive Habib again, but the U.S. diplomat will hear what he has heard before since Syria will not change its stand. The United States, not Syria, must change its position, TISHRIN concluded.

Syria, PLO Solidarity Conference

The international conference for solidarity with Syria and the Palestinian revolution, meeting in Damascus, issued a resolution on Palestine condemning Israeli policies in the Middle East, U.S. support for Israel and Israeli cooperation with South Africa. The resolution, carried textually by Damascus radio, called on the UN Security Council to take the necessary measures, including the imposition of sanctions against Israel, to compel it to respect and implement the UN resolutions on the Palestinian issue. It also called on the public of West Europe to persuade the West European governments to adopt a sound stand on the Palestinian issue and not to follow U.S. policies. The radio also broadcast a resolution denouncing the Camp David accords and U.S. policy in the Middle East and voicing support for the Arab liberation movement. It expressed deep appreciation for the strategic alliance between the Arab liberation movement and the states headed by the Soviet Union.

Libyan-Sudanese Relations

JANA reported that Libya has decided to close its mission in Khartoum and the Sudanese Embassy in Tripoli in view of Sudan's departure from Arab unanimity, its violation of the Baghdad conference resolutions and its reception of Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Middle East and Africa

Vol V No 123 *26 June 1981*

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

Jallud Says Israel Might Attack Libyan Reactors [VOP] A 1
VOP Carries Press Conference With Detained Germans A 1

ARABIAN PENINSULA

SAUDI ARABIA

Official Denies Saudi Working Paper on Lebanon C 1

PDRY

Reports on Activities of USSR's Marshal Sokolov C 1
Military Police Ceremony C 1
Chairman Reception C 2

EGYPT

Agreement Reached on Sinai Peacekeeping Force D 1
Further Details D 2
Mubarak on Signing D 2

IRAQ

Armed Forces General Command Communique 379 E 1
Moroccan Press Agency Interviews Ramadan E 1
PUK Leader Talabani Joins Kurdish Rebels [Voice of Iraqi Revolution] E 3
Cooperation Agreement With Britain Signed 24 Jun E 3

LEBANON

Sarkis Telephones Al-Asad; Cease-Fire in Zahlah G 1
Butrus Returns to Beirut From Jidda 25 Jun G 1
Germans Presented at Phalangist Press Conference G 1

SYRIA

TISHRIN Believes Habib Mission Achieved Nothing H 1
Solidarity Meeting Resolutions on Peace, Palestine H 1
Mideast Peace Resolution H 1
Palestine Resolution H 4
Al-Ahmar Receives Soviet Conference Delegation H 6
President al-Asad Contacted by Sarkis, Mitterrand H 6

ISRAEL

Text of Begin-Peres 25 Jun Election Debate I 1
Rabin Announced as Alignment Defense Minister I 10

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

Hassan Reportedly Accepts Referendum on Sahara P 1
AFP Report P 1
OAU Summit Session Continues in Nairobi 24-26 Jun P 1
AFP Report on Kodjo Remarks P 1
No Camp David Condemnation P 2
Siaka Stevens Speech 24 Jun P 2
Moi Acceptance Speech 24 Jun P 9
Report on Doe Speech P 11
Egypt's Mubarak Speech P 12
Tripoli: Libyans, Others Arab Walkout Protest P 12
JANA: Mozambique President, Libyan Discuss Chad P 13
At-Turayki: Libya Ready To Send Troops to Namibia P 13

NORTH AFRICA

LIBYA

'Source' Says Sudan Diplomatic Ties To Be Broken Q 1

SUDAN

Libyan Diplomats Expelled; Sudanese Recalled Q 1
Handgrenade Explodes at Chadian Embassy 25 Jun Q 1
Libya Implicated Q 2
President Numayri Interviewed by Kenyan Paper Q 2

EAST AFRICA

UGANDA

Minister Explains Detained Libyans to Parliament R 1
President Obote Interviewed on Libya, OAU R 1

JALLUD SAYS ISRAEL MIGHT ATTACK LIBYAN REACTORS

JN241915 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1845 GMT 24 Jun 81

[Text] Brother 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, member of the General People's Congress General Secretariat, has stated that he does not think it unlikely that the Zionist entity might raid the nuclear reactors in the Libyan Jamahiriyah. In his statement Jallud condemned the United States for defending the Zionist attack on the Iraqi nuclear reactor.

VOP CARRIES PRESS CONFERENCE WITH DETAINED GERMANS

JN251957 [Editorial Report] The clandestine Voice of Palestine in Arabic at 1800 GMT on 25 June carries a 16-minute recording of a press conference held on an unspecified date by "the unified security apparatus of the Palestinian revolution on the Palestinian news agency, WAFA, premises" during which "two West Germans who had been detained by the security apparatus of the Palestinian revolution and whose collaboration with the fascist Phalangist-Zionist scheme has been confirmed" are presented to attending reporters. The reporters' questions are in English and German with the Arabic translation done by several unidentified Palestinian officials.

An unidentified Palestinian official begins the press conference with a statement in which he reviews various attempts by "the Zionist information media and those which cooperate with them, such as the Lebanese Phalangist media and the American information media, to frame the PLO and describe it as terrorist in order to stem our successful information tide and political success achieved by the PLO in the world, particularly in West Europe." He goes on to say: "The PLO has been accused of having connections with European terrorist organizations and the Zionist information media did not forget to frame the PLO in the attempt to assassinate his holiness the pope, saying that the Turkish killer [Mohammad 'Ali Agha] was trained by the PLO."

Another unidentified Palestinian official continues by saying: "I am going to give a chance to the two German youths who are here now to speak for themselves in reply to the Phalangist press conference held today." He then translates into Arabic and English what one of the German youths says about the events which led to his arrival in Lebanon. He says the youth was a member of Josef Strauss's Christian Socialist Party in Bavaria and came to Lebanon from Cyprus. After being taken to a military camp near Juniah and given arms, he was trained for 6 months. The youth is quoted as saying that he and several other Germans came to western Beirut by mistake and were taken by some Palestinians who tried to convince them of the justice of the PLO's cause.

Asked why he came to Lebanon, the German says he came to help the Christians in Lebanon for "he was under the false impression that the Lebanese Christians live in a hostile atmosphere." Asked if he belongs to the Hoffman gang, he answers no.

Answering a question on the PLO's failure to publicize the capture of the Germans, an unidentified Palestinian official says: "As a security apparatus, it is not our task to publicize their capture. Our task is to reform them and win them over to our side."

When asked if his convictions about the Palestinian revolution have changed, one of the Germans replies: "Of course I have changed my beliefs, and I am very happy that I have."

SAUDI ARABIA

OFFICIAL DENIES SAUDI WORKING PAPER ON LEBANON

GF251937 Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Text] An official source at the Saudi Embassy in Lebanon today denied newspaper reports from the day before yesterday citing one of the information media that the Saudi ambassador to Lebanon, Gen 'Ali ash-Sha'ir, has put forward proposals in the form of a Saudi working paper to Lebanese Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus. He said: What has been said in this regard in unfounded. Everything that has been said in this regard has been totally fabricated.

PDRY

REPORTS ON ACTIVITIES OF USSR'S MARSHAL SOKOLOV

Military Police Ceremony

EA252136 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Excerpts] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council and the Council of Ministers, has hailed the soldiers, NCO's and officers of the Military Police on their glorious anniversary.

In a speech at a ceremony held this morning on the occasion of the third anniversary of the founding of the Military Police and the extermination of the opportunist left, he said: This day is a glorious day, not with regard to the comrades in arms and thinking members of the Military Police, but for all the workers, good and honorable people and those honest and loyal to the cause of the revolution in our country. At the same time, it is a day of the revolution and a day of the great victory of the party, a day of victory over the bloody conspiracy of the opportunist left.

The brother secretary general and chairman of the Presidium and the Council of Ministers praised the clear and distinct role played by the Military Police in confronting the conspiracy of the opportunist left, (?which) has made 26 June every year Military Police Day. He hailed those comrades who were martyred in the incidents of 26 June 1978 while defending the party line and the principles of the revolution and who allow no voice to rise above the voice of the party.

Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad praised the support and solidarity of our Soviet friends and our friends in the other socialist countries and some Arab countries.

Concluding his speech, he warmly welcomed Democratic Yemen's guest, Sergey Sokolov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy defense minister, who had made an effort worthy of thanks and appreciation for developing cooperation between our armed forces and the Soviet Armed Forces and between our parties and peoples.

The ceremony was attended by a number of brother party and state officials and a number of senior officers of the armed forces and the comrade guest Sergey Sokolov, Central Committee member and Soviet first deputy defense minister.

At the end of the ceremony, Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad distributed merit prizes and certificates to members of the Military Police and witnessed amilitary and sports parade. He also opened a cultural center.

Chairman Reception

EA252120 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the Central Committee and chairman of the People's Supreme Assembly Presidium and of the Council of Ministers, has praised the level of the relations of friendship and cooperation achieved between Democratic Yemen and the USSR.

He stressed that the expansion of ties of cooperation and exchange of delegations between the two friendly countries consolidates the [word indistinct] of friendship and creates suitable circumstances for achieving future development of the relations between the Yemeni and Soviet peoples. Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad praised the policy of revolutionary internationalism pursued by the USSR for the cause of freedom and progress of peoples, international detente and world peace.

This was said when he received in his office at the Presidium this morning Comrade Marshal Sergey Sokolov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR first deputy defense minister.

Military cooperation between the Yemeni and Soviet armies and relations of cooperation and friendship existing between Democratic Yemen and the USSR and ways of strengthening them in the interest of the peoples of the two countries were reviewed during the meeting. The meeting discussed the development of the situation in the region resulting from the aggressive imperialist moves.

Marshal Sokolov expressed his gratification at visiting Democratic Yemen and the results achieved by the visit. He praised the revolutionary transformations being achieved by our country under the leadership of the YSP and the principled role it is playing for the sake of stability and peace in the region.

The meeting was attended by Brothers Lt Col 'Abdullah 'Ali Ilaywah, first deputy defense minister and chief of the general staff of the armed forces; Major Muhammad Haytham, deputy chief of general staff of the armed forces; and Comrade (Alisev), charge d'affaires of the Soviet Embassy in Aden.

AGREEMENT REACHED ON SINAI PEACEKEEPING FORCE

NC251613 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1430 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Text] Cairo, 25 Jun (MENA)--U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Michael Sterner has announced that an agreement has been reached between Egypt and Israel on the formation of the multinational peacekeeping force in the Sinai. In a press conference held following the conclusion of the tripartite committee meetings among Egypt, the United States and Israel, Mr Sterner said that this agreement will be initialed after the heads of the delegations submit it to their governments for ratification.

Sterner added that after the agreement is initialed, it will be submitted to the Egyptian People's Assembly, the Israeli Knesset and the U.S. Congress--following which the agreement will be officially signed in a public ceremony.

Mr Sterner added that the United States considers the attainment of this agreement--during the negotiations that were held for this purpose--a major development for maintaining peace in the Sinai. The United States also considers this a major step for propelling the process for overall peace in the area in the future.

Michael Sterner said that the multinational force's mission will be replacing UN forces in maintaining peace. He said that Areas A, B, C and D between Egypt and Israel in the areas from which Israel will withdraw next year--have already been determined. He added that the director general of the forces will be an American, while the commander of these forces will come from one of the countries participating in these forces. He added that the force will include between 2,000 and 3,000 men who will maintain peace in the area.

Mr Sterner added that, so far, the countries that will participate in this force have not been determined despite the fact that a number of countries have already expressed willingness to participate in these forces.

Michael Sterner added that as a result of an agreement with the director general and the force's commander, the force will use the facilities provided for it under the jurisdiction of Egyptian sovereignty and not under the force's jurisdiction.

He added that the U.S. inspectors will be civilian personnel. Replying to a question on the forces' length of stay, Mr Sterner said that this has not been specified. To a question concerning the financing of these forces, Mr Sterner said that preliminary estimates indicate that during the first year the cost would be $200 million, of which the United States would pay $100 million, while Egypt and Israel would shoulder the remainder. Later on, the cost would be divided equally among Egypt, Israel and the United States. He added that the United States had wanted to shoulder a major share of the expenses during the first year so as to ease the financial burden for both Egypt and Israel.

Asked about the specific date for initialing the agreement, Mr Sterner said: We hope this will take place in the near future. At any rate, it will not take place before the Israeli elections. He announced that an agreement has been reached whereby the forces will start their work and take up their positions one month prior to Israel's withdrawal from the Sinai.

He added that in the event of differences arising between the two sides concerning the peacekeeping mission, these will be solved by the two governments concerned. He added that the United States' role in this agreement is that of a mere spectator and as a substitute for the United Nations.

Mr Sterner said that the clauses of the agreement will not be secret and that they will be announced following the agreement reached by the respective governments on them.

He expressed his happiness over the agreement, adding that the United States has committed itself to taking part in these meetings in order to push the peace process in the area in accordance with the Camp David agreement and the peace agreement.

Mr Michael Sterner is scheduled to leave Cairo tomorrow on his way home.

Further Details

NC251327 Cairo MENA in English 1312 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Text] Cairo, 25 Jun (MENA)--The tripartite committee on the formation of the multi-national peacekeeping force in Sinai wound up its meetings here this morning. The MIDDLE EAST NEWS AGENCY learnt that the committee has worked out a framework for the final measures concerning privileges and immunities for the multi-national troops which will be an alternative for the United Nations forces pending approval of the world organisation to maintain a presence for its troops in Sinai. The framework also deals with the size, functions, positions and means of financing these troops.

The agency also learnt that the multi-national force will not exceed two thousand personnel within the framework of Egypt's full sovereignty over its territory.

An American will be appointed as administrative supervisor of these troops, while the command of the force will be given to an officer from one of the countries participating in it.

It is also learnt that contacts will be carried out within the next few days between the chief delegates of Egypt, the United States and Israel to agree on the date and venue of a meeting to be held for initialling the protocol of the agreement and the military appendix.

The Israeli delegation left here this morning while the U.S. delegation is due to leave tomorrow under Michael Sterner, deputy assistant secretary of state.

Rear Admiral Muhsin Hamdi, head of the Egyptian side to the military committee, held a meeting earlier today with members of the U.S. delegation, Michael Sterner and General Mianka to consider all documents of the final agreement of the military appendix.

The talks on the formation of the multi-national peacekeeping force opened on Monday within the framework of the third round of talks.

Mubarak on Signing

NC252129 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Text] Vice President Husni Mubarak has announced that the signing of the agreement on the establishment of the multinational force in the Sinai will take place on July 5 in London. The vice president said that this force was formed to ensure that Israel withdraws on schedule and to prevent any pretext for postponing this withdrawal. He added that Israeli Prime Minister Begin had informed President as-Sadat of his committment to withdraw on the specified date. Vice President Mubarak said that Egyptian-Israeli relations are the same as any other relations between two countries.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUE 379

JN251712 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Communique No 379 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 25 June 1981]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant armed forces continued to pound the forces of the ignorant racist Persians in the operational sectors last night and today, with the following results:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. One fuel tank destroyed in front of our positions in the Nowsud region.
B. Two killed and one fieldgun destroyed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region.
C. One killed and three infantry positions destroyed in the Mehran region.
D. One of our forward units engaged an enemy infantry force supported by tanks in the Dezful region. Following a fierce battle, the reckless enemy was forced to flee, leaving behind 194 dead and 1 tank, 3 vehicles and 1 fieldgun destroyed.
E. One vehicle, one stockpile of ammunition and one fieldgun destroyed in the Shush region.
F. One armored personnel carrier destroyed in the Ahvaz region.
G. Seven killed and one infantry position, one armored personnel carrier, theree stockpiles of ammunition, and two observation posts destroyed in the Abadan region.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 204 killed and 4 infantry positions, 1 tank, 2 armored personnel carriers, 5 vehicles, 3 fieldguns, 4 stockpiles of ammunition and 2 observation posts destroyed.

I. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 30 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: One tank, three vehicles, one mortar, two excavators, and two armored vehicles damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 25 June 1981

MOROCCAN PRESS AGENCY INTERVIEWS RAMADAN

PM251155 Casablanca LE MATIN in French 17 Jun 81 pp 1, 6

[MAP dispatch]

[Text] Baghdad, 17 Jun--Iraq is firmly opposed to any attempt aimed at breaking up and splitting the Arab nation or creating within it weak microentities incapable of working positively in favor of that nation's interests, Taha Yasin Ramadan, member of the Revolutionary Command Council and Iraqi first deputy prime minister, stated Monday.

In an interview granted to the MAP, Mr Ramadan added that his country is opposed to any war among Arab countries, "for whatever reasons, because this can benefit only other countries.

"The reunification of the Arab nation is one of the aims sought by the Ba'th Party, and Iraq supports any unionist initiative and opposes any attempt at breakup.

Proceeding from these principles, we are striving with our brothers in the Arab Maghreb to find a solution to the Sahara problem in order to end the bloodshed," he stated.

Mr Ramadan also stated that the At-Ta'if Islamic summit's decision to reelect His Majesty Hassan II as chairman of the Jerusalem Committee constitutes in itself a "positive assessment of the active role played by the sovereign, especially at the political and diplomatic levels, to make international public opinion aware of the Palestinian cause and Jerusalem."

"That is why," he added, "I regard this choice as wise." It constitutes "a recognition of the dynamism and responsibility displayed by His Majesty King Hassan II."

With respect to Moroccan-Iraqi relations, Mr Ramadan declared himself optimistic about their development and the positive evolution which has characterized them over the last 4 years. He recalled the coming meeting of the joint cooperation commission, which, he said, will be a new opportunity for the fraternal countries to examine new fields of industrial, trading or tourism cooperation.

Concerning the 7 June Zionist air raid against the Iraqi nuclear research center, Mr Ramadan explained the aims sought by Israel in these terms: "The Zionist entity," he said, "has expansionist aims in the Arab region. Consequently, that entity is opposed to any serious attempt capable of securing the foundations of a takeoff for the Arab nation.

"It is for this reason that the Zionist enemy bombed the Iraqi nuclear installations: Because it believes that they constitute a danger to it.

"The collaboration between the Iranian regime and the Zionist entity to weaken the Arab nation became evident during the first days of the war, as is demonstrated by the participation of Israeli aircraft in an 27 September attack on Baghdad and the Iraqi nuclear reactor," he stated.

The Iraqi leader specified that Iraq did not take advantage of the situation created in Iran following the fall of the shah in order to raise the unresolved problems. "All the Arab and Islamic countries favorably received the change which occurred in Iran, seeing in it a factor strengthening Arab-Islamic cooperation," he maintained.

In Mr Ramadan's opinion, Iraq was forced to go to war against Iran. "Diplomatic channels were certainly not exhausted," he said, "but we had to accept the challenge when Iran began to attack our borders and our cities, using the entire arsenal of weapons at its disposal."

Moreover, he added, Tehran's reply to the Iraqi notes aimed at settling the unresolved issues has not "give us more time" but "what you are asking has no reply." Even more seriously, he further added, the Iranians began to put forward "new claims to Iraqi and Arab territory, to the extent of claiming that the 1980 referendum in Bahrain was not honest and that Bahrain is Iranian territory."

Recalling the good offices of the Islamic Conference Organization, he maintained that there are two currents in Iran--one in favor of opening negotiations with Iraq and establishing a cease-fire and the other in favor of continuing the war.

Mr Ramadan reaffirmed Baghdad's stance that Iraqi forces will withdraw from Iranian territories if Tehran recognizes Iraq's rights.

Mr Ramadan paid tribute to fraternal Morocco's stance on this conflict. "Iraq, its Command Council, its government and its people appreciate the stance of fraternal Morocco, which spares no effort to take part in any struggle waged by the nation," he stated.

With respect to the three islands occupied by the Iranian Army in the days of the shah, Yasin Ramadan stated that his country "will sign no agreement with Iran until that country agrees to the restoration of those islands to the UAF." "Without the restoration of those islands to Arab sovereignty," he emphasized, "we believe that we have not created an atmosphere favorable to the normalization of relations between the Arabs and Iran."

Recalling the 1975 Algiers agreement, the Iraqi leader stated that his country agreed to sign it because there was a threat "of breaking up Iraq." Before the signing of that agreement, he explained, the Iranian Army was taking part in fighting to support "Mustafa Barzani's Kurdish terrorists, at a time when the Iraqi Army lacked many kinds of weapons with which the Soviet Union had refused to supply us."

Asked whether the Iraqi Government is envisaging reviewing the Iraqi-Soviet treaty of friendship and cooperation, Yasin Ramadan stated: "Indeed we cannot respect commitments which run counter to our political line and the nation's interests. Our stance does not mean that we do not establish ties of friendship with others for the common good. We regard the Soviet Union as a country, while condemning its refusal to supply us with military equipment." [sentence as published] Moreover, Mr Ramadan does not believe any change likely in French policy toward Iraq as far as the agreement governing bilateral cooperation in the nuclear field is concerned. "We foresee no change in that policy following President Francois Mitterrand's attainment of power."

"Iraq," he emphasized, "is firmly determined to continue its nuclear research, and that decision will not be influenced by any quarter."

PUK LEADER TALABANI JOINS KURDISH REBELS

JN241426 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Revolution in Surani Kurdish 1600 GMT 23 Jun 81

[Station announcement]

[Text] In the name of the Politburo of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan [PUK], valiant peshmerga and our masses, we welcome Comrade Struggler Jalal Talabani, secretary general of the PUK, who has joined the ranks of the valiant peshmerga of Kurdistan. We hope that his presence will give new impetus to the revolution, the liberation movement of the Kurdish People and the overall Iraqi progressive democratic movement.

COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH BRITAIN SIGNED 24 JUN

JN241738 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1355 GMT 24 Jun 81

[Text] London, 24 Jun (INA)--Iraq and Britain signed here today a technical and economic cooperation agreement. The agreement was signed for Iraq by Hasan 'Ali, Revolution Command Council member, and for Britain by Trade Minister John Biffen. The agreement deals with the legal framework of the technical and economic cooperation between the two countries in various fields, particularly in the steel industry, generation and distribution of electricity, agriculture, transport, health and the transfer of technology. The agreement also stipulates the formation of a joint committee which will meet periodically in London and Baghdad and will have overall authority to supervise and implement the agreement and to submit proposals and recommendations to the two governments on new fields of cooperation.

The signing ceremony was attended by the Iraqi ambassador in London, members of the delegation accompanying Hasan 'Ali, a number of officials from the Iraqi Foreign Ministry and the British Foreign Office and a number of journalists and businessmen.

SARKIS TELEPHONES AL-ASAD; CEASE-FIRE IN ZAHLAH

NC251152 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Text] At 1130 [0930 GMT] today, President Ilyas Sarkis had a telephone conversation with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. During their conversation the two presidents discussed the security situation and the latest tension in the security situation in Zahlah and nearby areas. They consequently agreed to immediately stop the deterioration by consolidating the cease-fire. As a result of the efforts exerted at various levels, a comprehensive cease-fire agreement has been reached for Zahlah that began at 1215 today. The NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY correspondent in Zahlah reported at noon today that calm prevails throughout the city.

BUTRUS RETURNS TO BEIRUT FROM JIDDA 25 Jun

NC251221 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Text] Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus returned to Beirut from Jidda on board a government-owned plane at 1115 today. He did not make any statements at the airport, indicating that he made a comprehensive statement in Jidda yesterday. Minister Butrus immediately left for the Republican Palace, where he met with President Sarkis at 1215. The two reviewed the outcome of the Arab followup committee meeting in Jidda.

GERMANS PRESENTED AT PHALANGIST PRESS CONFERENCE

NC251437 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Text] Na'um Farah, head of the Lebanese Forces Command's Foreign Relations Department, held a press conference at the Lebanese Forces headquarters this morning which was attended by a number of world press and news agency correspondents. During the press conference he introduced to the correspondents two German youths who are being detained by the Lebanese Forces and who confessed that they were trained to use explosives in a camp belonging to Abu Iyad Salah Khalaf, [second in command of Fatah] in Bi'r Hasan [in Beirut].

Farah linked the explosion that occurred in Munich, West Germany, with the explosion that occurred in Bologne's railway station [in Italy], stressing that German terrorist Carl Hoffman visited Lebanon several times and agreed with Abu Iyad on coordination among some terrorist groups in Europe.

Farah explained that the Lebanese Forces have always been in the forefront of those fighting world terrorism. He disclosed a terrorist network in Syria headquartered in the Babylon Hotel in Damascus which is headed by Mahammad Hijazi, 'Atif Bsisu and Amin Hindi. The mission of this network is to recruit volunteers for Abu Iyad. Farah added that the Lebanese Forces are supplying authorities in Western Europe with information in their possession with the aim of fighting terrorism, be it rightist or leftist terrorism. Meanwhile, he denied that there is any relationship between the Lebanese Forces' Intelligence Department and the Israeli intelligence department.

The two arrested Germans said that they entered Lebanon in October 1980 to receive training on weapons and explosives and to repair the vehicles Hoffman is selling to the Palestinians. They explained that there are between 20 and 25 Germans in the camp, and expressed the belief that there are Japanese and Italians in other Palestinian camps.

TISHRIN BELIEVES HABIB MISSION ACHIEVED NOTHING

JN260727 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 26 Jun 81

[From the press review]

[Text] In a commentary under the headline "Philip Habib's Third Tour," the paper TISHRIN says: U.S. President Ronald Reagan's envoy Philip Habib ended his second tour of the region and left for Washington for consultations. As he said prior to his departure from Beirut, he will return at the beginning of next July--after the Israeli elections--to resume his mission.

Before the U.S. envoy returns to the region, a question arises: What has Habib achieved during his two tours and is he going in the right direction to achieve a solution?

It is certain that the answer to this question is in the negative. Mr Habib came to tackle a nonexistent crisis, one that is only viewed as such by Begin and Reagan. At the same time he is ignoring a real and existent crisis. However, the U.S. envoy is excused because he only speaks in accordance with White House directives. Thus, why should we burden Habib and his mission with more than they are responsible for? Why do we not go back to the origin and cause of the malady: The U.S. administration and the U.S. stand?

The U.S. administration's point of view regarding the problem is completely different from the Arab viewpoint and contrasts with reality. Yet this point of view is absolutely identical to the Israeli one. Menahem Begin said that Habib pledged to him to gain the withdrawal of the Syrian missiles from the Lebanese Al-Biqa' plain. He added that if the U.S. envoy is unable to do so, Israel would carry out this mission in its own way. This recurrent statement embodies the nature of the U.S. stand more than it reveals an Israeli stand that is known to both the Arabs and world public opinion.

The U.S. viewpoint on the crisis boils down to the fact that Syria is threatening Israeli security through installing Syrian surface-to-air missiles, which are only launched against hostile planes trying to kill the peaceful and to provoke our Arab Syrian forces in Lebanon, forces which are there in accordance with Arab and Lebanese as well as international legitimacy.

As for Israel it threatens no one, neither Syria, Lebanon nor any Arab state. All its aggressive acts are legitimate, and, above all, it has the right to continue its raids on the Palestinian camps and Lebanon's villages and cities, in addition to attacking our Arab Syrian forces. This is not only Menahem Begin's viewpoint, it is also Ronald Reagan's viewpoint. There is no difference between a U.S. stand and an Israeli stand. We have absolute proof of this, and the U.S. and Israeli officials' statements also confirm it. It is on the basis of this that Syria and all the Arabs view the U.S. stand on the Arab issue, and this basis will not change until proof meriting a change is received.

Mr Habib has heard more than once that Syria has nothing to offer and that he has to tackle the problem of Israel's aggression against the Arab people. Syria will receive Habib. However, he will hear what he has heard before since the Syrian stand is one, a firm, pan-Arab and unchangeable stand. What must change is the U.S. stand.

SOLIDARITY MEETING RESOLUTIONS ON PEACE, PALESTINE

Mideast Peace Resolution

JN252133 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1945 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Text] At its final session this evening, the international conference for solidarity with revolutionary Syria and the Palestinian revolution adopted a resolution on a just peace in the Middle East, the text of which is as follows:

The international conference for solidarity with revolutionary Syria and the Palestinian revolution held in Damascus 22-25 June 1981--having carefully studied the current developments in the Middle East, the objectives and results of the Camp David accords which were concluded between Israel and the As-Sadat regime under U.S. auspices--believes that these accords have not contributed to the promotion of the peace process, as their owners claim, but have complicated the chances for peace, increased tension and brought the region to the brink of war. Under these accords, Israel continues to occupy Palestinian and Arab lands in the occupied territories, the West Bank, Gaza, the Golan Heights and part of Sinai. Israel intensifies the building of settlements and the confiscation of lands belonging to the Arab citizens, evicts and disperses them, occupies and annexes more Arab lands including the annexation of Arab Jerusalem and declaring it Israel's eternal capital, the occupation of the border strip in southern Lebanon in wake of the March 1978 aggression and attempts to annex the Golan Heights and impose the Israeli citizenship on its inhabitants.

On the other side and under the same Camp David accords, Israel's aggressiveness is escalating against the entire Arab region. The Israeli war of annihilation against Lebanon has been going on for the past 13 years through Israel's daily attacks on land, in the air and on the sea against peaceful Lebanese villages and the Palestinian refugee camps while Israeli threats against Syria and the Arab Deterrent Forces operating in Lebanon are escalating to reach the brink of war through the so-called missile crisis. The recent Israeli raid against the nuclear reactor which had been set up for peaceful purposes in Iraq, shows the extent of Israel's aggressiveness and its disregard of the principles of international law, the entire human values and the international public opinion.

All these developments confirm that the Camp David accords are the spearhead of the imperialist onslaught against the Arab homeland and its national liberation movement to restore the region to U.S. control, plunder its resources, particularly oil, and exploit its strategic position for the objectives of the hostile militarist imperialist objectives. This onslaught has gained new momentum with the advent of Reagan's administration to power. It was also accompanied by a reckless course which aims at reviving the trend of U.S. military intervention in the world, declaring war on national liberation movements in three continents under the pretext of combating international terrorism and increasing support for dictatorial and fascist regimes in the world. The trend of planting U.S. bases in Egypt, Somalia, Oman, Bahrain, Kenya and other countries and holding maneuvers for the Rapid Deployment Force is just the other face of the Camp David accords, the face that blatantly threatens the independence and sovereignty of the Arab countries and escalates conspiracies against Syria, the Palestinian revolution, Lebanon, the PDRY, Algeria, Libya and the other Arab liberation factions.

The Camp David accords have consolidated the U.S. military presence in the region and have laid down the foundation for the establishment of a U.S.-Israeli-Egyptian axis against the entire Arab nation's interests.

The international conference for solidarity with revolutionary Syria and the Palestinian revolution, having noted that the broad Arab masses, their regimes, and their patriotic and progressive forces have rejected these accords and the schemes that are connected to them and have confronted them with all means, announces the following:

I. The conference categorically denounces the Camp David accords, since they are the spearhead of the U.S.-Israeli aggression which aims at imposing hegemony over the region and liquidating the region's national and pan-Arab rights and because they pose a serious threat to international peace and security.

II. The conference condemns the U.S. policy in the Middle East and its attempts to sabotage all international efforts that seek to achieve a just and lasting peace in the Middle East, particularly its constant use of the veto which encourages and legalizes Israel's policy of aggression and expansion.

III. The conference asserts that the practical solution for the so-called Middle East crisis which will guarantee the realization of durable peace is one which is based on the liberation of the Arab territories occupied in 1967 and the realization of the Palestinian people's inalienable rights to return, to decide their fate on their own land and to establish an independent national state on their own national soil under their sole legitimate representative the PLO.

IV. The conference reiterates its complete support for the Arab liberation movement and for the struggle waged by Syria, the PLO, the Lebanese National Movement, the national and progressive Egyptian forces and all the Arab forces of confrontation and steadfastness.

V. The conference declares its deep appreciation for the strategic alliance between the Arab liberation movement and the socialist states, headed by the Soviet Union, which has been and continues to be the effective support for the Arab nation's struggle and the strong basis for the triumph of its cause. The conference on this occasion calls on all peace-loving peoples to support the new Soviet initiative calling for an international conference with the participation of all concerned parties, including the PLO, in order to realize a just and comprehensive solution for the Middle East crisis.

VI. The conference calls on world public opinion and all the forces which desire peace and progress to stand, by all means, with the Arab resistance to the Camp David accord because this resistence is a primary and fateful battle for peace in the world.

The conference also issued a resolution of solidarity with Syria, the text of which is as follows:

Zionism and imperialism, their aggressive base Israel and their allies are increasing their pressure and their threats of aggression against Syria. The Israeli militarists are issuing statements on their intention of carrying out military operations against the Syrian peacekeeping forces which are present in Lebanon in a legal manner. Israel reconnaissance planes fly over Syrian forces and over Syrian territory. The United States is transferring to Syria, Israel's demands relating to Syrian forces, arms and other issues, an act which infringes on Syria's sovereignty, and Israel is threatening to carry out aggression against Syria if it does not heed Israel's demands. After its savage destruction of the Syrian city of Al-Qunaytirah, Israel is establishing settlements in the Golan, practicing all forms of terror and repression against the Golan population and attempting to mame them carry Israeli identity cards. All these Israeli practices are a prelude approving the decision to annex the Golan to Israel. Imperialism and Israel are escalating the aggressive acts against Syria because of its steadfastness in the face of all the imperialist and Zionist plots aimed at controlling the region, particularly the Camp David accords; because of its cohesion with the Palestinian people and its solidarity with the Arab and world liberation movements; and because of Syria's fraternal help to Lebanon to preserve its borders, unity and sovereignty and to establish security in its territories. Syria stands firm in the face of all these threats and pressures and is determined to resist all aggressions. In doing this Syria not only defends its independence and freedom but primarily contributes toward foiling imperialist plots to control the region and also toward the victory of the world national liberation movement. Therefore:

I. The conference strongly condemns the imperialist-Zionist pressures aimed against Syria, and considers these pressures a flagrant violation of the UN Charter and international law and a risky provocation which might end in a war in the Middle East region--a war whose limits cannot be guaranteed and whose threat to world peace and security cannot be ignored. The conference denounces Israel's terrorist practices against the people of the Golan.

II. The conference declares its full solidarity with the Syrian Arab Republic and its stand by the side of the Syrian people, greets its president, Hafiz al-Asad, and considers solidarity with it to be solidarity with all the groups of the Arab liberation movement.

III. The conference affirms that one of the most important conditions of a comprehensive peace in the region is Israel's withdrawal from all the occupied Arab and Palestinian territories including the Syrian territory of the Golan. The conference demands that Israel stop all aggressive acts against Syria and Lebanon, that the United States stop its attempts to impose its hegemony over the region and that it stop its use of Israel as an advanced base for committing aggression against the Arab nation.

IV. The conference calls on all the peace and freedom forces to voice their support for the just Syrian people's struggle, to express their complete solidarity with them and to organize activities and campaigns to paralyze the hand raised against Syria and force the imperialists and Israel to stop their plots and their threats against Syria.

The conference issued a resolution on the growth of the U.S. military forces, the text of which is as follows:

The international conference in support of Syria and the Palestinian revolution voices its deep concern over the increase in the military forces sponsored by the United States in the Middle East and the Arab Gulf. The doctrine of the present U.S. administration which calls for military intervention in the affairs of the states in the region and in other world regions in order to protect the so-called vital interests is a flagrant flouting of the UN Charter and international law. The conference strongly condemns the establishment of new military bases and the granting of military facilities to the United States, especially in Egypt, Somalia, Oman and Kenya; and the expansion of the present bases in Cyprus, Turkey, Bahrain and Diego Garcia; the establishment of the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force; and the unprecedented U.S. military aid to Israel and other colluding states in the region. The conference also condemns the current dubious U.S. plans to establish military blocs on a large scale in the region based on the Camp David alliance.

Palestine Resolution

JN252040 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 25 Jun 81

["Text" of "special resolution on Palestine" issued by the international conference for solidarity with revolutionary Syria and the Palestinian revolution in Damascus on 25 June]

[Text] Having carefully studied the current grave situation in the Middle East as a result of the continued and escalating Israeli aggression against the Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied land which is backed by imperialism and which aims at liquidating the Palestinian issue; striking at the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and at the Lebanese people and the national movement; and at threatening Syria, the international conference for solidarity with revolutionary Syria and the Palestinian revolution held in Damascus 22-25 June 1981 decides the following:

1. To condemn the daily Israeli aggressions against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples.

2. To condemn and denounce the fascist and expansionist Israeli practices in occupied Palestinian and other Arab land which aim at making demographic changes, obliterating the national heritage, threatening Arab land and evicting Palestinian refugees. It also condemns the torture practiced against Palestinian detainees and prisoners.

3. To condemn the theory of Israeli security, which is in essence identical to Nazism's Lebensraum.

4. To condemn Israel's decision to annex Jerusalem and consider it its permanent capital. The conference considers Israeli aggression against Jerusalem a violation of the Palestinian people's rights and a violation of international legitimacy and the UN resolutions. This aggression also constitutes a provocation against the freedom of worship and against those who defend human rights. Suitable measures should be taken to end this annexation.

5. To condemn all the imperialist, Zionist and reactionary options which are raised to solve the Palestinian issue, such as the Jordanian option, the autonomy project and any other option that ignores the Palestinian people's inalienable national rights and the sole representation of the PLO of the Palestinian people. The conference asserts that the sole option to solve the Palestinian issue is the Palestinian option, which guarantees the realization of the Palestinian people's inalienable national rights, including their right to return to their homeland, Palestine, and their right to self-determination and establishment of an independent national state on their national soil.

6. To reiterate its condemnation and rejection of the Camp David accords, the Egyptian-Israeli treaty and all partial and unilateral treaties that blatantly violate the Palestinian people's rights, the Arab nation's rights and the principles and resolutions of the United Nations.

7. To strongly condemn U.S. policy hostile to the Palestinian people and the PLO. The conference also condemns U.S. material, political and military support for Israel, considering this aid a direct U.S. participation in the aggression against the Palestinian people and the Arab nation. The conference specifically condemns President Reagan's more hostile policy against the PLO and the U.S. administration's description of the PLO and other national liberation movements as terrorist organizations within the context of its pretexts of crush national liberation movements, strengthen its military buildup, wreck international detente and threaten world peace and security.

8. While recalling the UN resolution which considers Zionism a form of racism, the conference condemns the racist cooperation between the South African regime and Israel and warns against their possession of nuclear weapons.

9. To condemn Israel's policy hostile to liberation movements in Africa and Latin America and Israel's provision of fascist regimes in African and Latin American countries with arms to be used against liberation movements.

10. The conference underlines the fact that the Palestinian issue is the crux of the Middle East conflict and that a just peace in the Middle East should be based on Israel's total and unconditional withdrawal from the occupied Palestinian and other Arab land, including Jerusalem in its capacity as an indivisible part of the occupied Palestinian land, and on the realization of the Palestinian people's national inalienable rights, including their right to return to their homeland, determine their future and establish an independent national state on their national soil. UN Security Council Resolution No 242 does not provide a basis for solving the Palestinian issue. The conference calls on the UN Security Council to take the necessary measures, including the imposition of sanctions against Israel, to compel it to respect and implement UN resolutions on the Palestinian issue.

11. The conference asserts its total solidarity with the PLO in its capacity as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and their sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and their sole spokesman in all local and international forums. The conference also asserts its solidarity with the Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied land and its support for the Palestinian people's just and legitimate struggle to regain their national rights.

12. The conference proclaims its solidarity with the Lebanese people and their national movement and with Syria against Israeli threats and aggressions. it expresses its full support for the cohesion among Syria, the Lebanese National Movement and the PLO in confronting the imperialist-Zionist onslaught.

13. The conference calls on all peace forces in the world to intensify their efforts to back a just solution to the Palestinian issue, which is one of the most important issues of world peace and detente. The conference also calls, in particular, on progressive public opinion in West Europe to launch an effective campaign to persuade its governments to adopt a sound stand on the Palestinian issue and not to follow the dangerous policy of the U.S. administration in this regard.

AL-AHMAR RECEIVES SOVIET CONFERENCE DELEGATION

JN251404 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Text] Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, this morning received the Soviet delegation participating in the international conference for solidarity with Syria and the Palestinian revolution. The Soviet delegation is headed by Comrade Vladimir Blinov, justice minister in the RSFSR. The meeting was attended by the Soviet ambassador in Damascus.

Discussion centered on the current Middle East situation and the imperialist, U.S. onslaught represented by its intensification of international crises, its hegemony over the destinies of peoples and its participation with its instrument--Israel--in undermining Syrian steadfastness, liquidating the Palestine cause, undermining the sovereignty of the Lebanese people over their lands and bringing the Arab nation to surrender to imposed defeatist solutions.

The comrade assistant secretary general emphasized Syria's firm stand toward any imperialist, Zionist aggression. he said that our Arab people, with the support of their friends in the socialist block--headed by the Soviet Union--will be able to repulse any attack and obtain their full rights.

The Soviet side expressed its country's firm support for the struggle of the Arab people and its determination to support Syria's steadfastness in the face of the imperialist, Zionist attempts to control the region and of the Israeli threats of aggression. The Soviet side affirmed that the Soviet Union would support its friends in foiling all imperialist, Zionist designs. This support will prevent aggression and prevent aggressive forces from controlling the destiny of the Arab nation.

PRESIDENT AL-ASAD CONTACTED BY SARKIS, MITTERRAND

JN251301 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Text] Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis phoned President Hafiz al-Asad. They discussed the security situation in Lebanon.

President Hafiz al-Asad also received a message from French President Francois Mitterrand explaining his government's stand on the Middle East situation.

TEXT OF BEGIN-PERES 25 JUN ELECTION DEBATE

TA251957 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1940 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Debate between Prime Minister Menahem Begin and Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres moderated by Ze'ev Schiff in the Kfar Hamakabiyyah studio on 25 June--videotaped]

[Text] [Schiff] I will ask you to sum up the 4 years since the last elections. Were there only successes, Mr Begin?

[Begin] Good evening Mr Moderator, good evening to my honorable rival, Mr Shim'on Peres, good evening to the honorable judge [Moshe 'Ezyoni, chairman of the Central Elections Committee], good evening to all the Israeli citizens, those who watch us and those who listen to us.

No, there were not only successes, but there were successes. The last 4 years, to make an understatement, were very interesting and important in the history of Israel. These 4 years are situated between two ends. On the end there is the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt. How important the peace treaty is we could witness these very days in the wake of the crisis in our relations with Syria against the background of Lebanon and the events there. Had it not been for the peace treaty with Egypt we would several weeks ago have had to mobilize most of the reserve forces to guard the north and defend the south or vice versa. Why is this so? Because under no circumstances would we have indulged in a possible second Yom Kippur, under no condition would we have indulged in a second mishap. Then, a very difficult situation would have been created with our reserve forces-working in factories, schools--how long could we have kept the reserves? Because of the existence of the peace treaty we did not mobilize even one unit. The truth is that we mobilized several hundred reserve troops, experts. I believe that some of them will soon be released. This was the beginning, not at the very outset though. However, on that end is the peace treaty, a revolutionary event in the position of the State of Israel in the Middle East.

On the other hand, there is the redeeming decision of the government and the redeeming operation of our air force which destroyed the Osirak nuclear reactor near Baghdad. I assume that today, following Saddam Husayn's statements of yesterday, my rival, the honorable Mr Peres, will agree with me that there had been a real danger, that is, the production of nuclear bombs which could have been aimed against the State of Israel and Israeli children. Between these two ends there were many events and, in my opinion, the most important of them is the effective and practical defense of the people as well as other issues which I will probably dwell upon when I reply to other questions.

[Schiff] Mr Peres, during those same 4 years were there only failures?

[Peres] I respect the issue of peace. However, I must and will tell Mr Menahem Begin that the peace process Began in 1974 through agreement on the disengagement of forces--to which Mr Begin was opposed. In 1975 there was the interim agreement--after all, a change also occurred in Egypt--to which Mr Begin was also opposed. Then came the third phase of the peace itself. However, also this peace is now facing a difficult test. Because of the elections, Mr Begin invited As-Sadat 3 days prior to the bombing of the reactor and put him in an intolerable and unneccessary situation. Nobody is able to explain why this was done, and the peace treaty is also composed of two parts: The withdrawal from the Sinai--and this has been carried out--and the autonomy, which is still pending and endangering the future of peace.

As regards the reactor, I have no doubt that Iraq wants a nuclear bomb. I have no doubt that Israel must act against the nuclear bomb. I have fundamentally different opinions regarding the best way to prevent Iraq from having a nuclear bomb but I will not go into this.

These were 4 difficult years for Israel. Mr Begin, what did you do to the State of Israel? An economy with a rate of inflation of 1,210 percent; development in the country has stopped; immigration has stopped; there is a government rife with arguments and insults which we have never witnessed before. In addition to this, on the eve of elections you took the country's treasury and you handed out money to the voters. You created the impression that we could have an easy life, that there is no need to work, everything will fall like manna from the sky. You also used state means in the last 3 months. In fact, this was a government which hardly functioned during 4 years and in the last 3 months is allowed itself everything. In my opinion, these were the 4 most difficult years ever experienced by the State of Israel. They were unnecessary. There have always been intervals between wars and we used them to develop and build. There is a time to build and a time to be alert.

[Schiff] The second question to Mr Peres and to Mr Begin: In what way is the current election campaign different in character from previous ones? And what is the contest really about? On the better leader and team, or also about a different ideology and better solutions to our problems? Mr Peres, it is your turn, if you please.

[Peres] This was the most violent, offensive and difficult election campaign we have ever known in the State of Israel. First of all, this government has turned into an election headquarters, and anyone who has a different view--not a different view regarding what the State of Israel needs, but a different view on what the Likud needs--was presented as a traitor, a saboteur, a nonpatriot. There was here an attempt to silence the very democratic spirit by terrible descriptions that emanated from Cabinet sessions. There was an attempt at character assassination of myself as a person, of the Alignment as a party, of the workers, toiling Eretz Yisra'el as a national, historical phenomenon. No means were thought of as foul.

I, Mr Schiff, participated in many election rallies. I saw the tomatoes, the wooden sticks, and let no one talk to me about provocation: I saw it with my own eyes. I witnessed the shouts: Begin, Begin. I saw those youths, and it is not they who are to blame: I would like to say something, and not mince words about it: Mr Menahem Begin, you are the man responsible for that. I read your speeches. Imagine, you come to Lod or any other place, and you say the following: Under the Alignment, the terrorists would come to Israel and murder man, woman and child. And then Mr Menahem Begin supplied examples: In Nahariyya, in Misgav 'am, on the coastal road. Mr Menahem Begin, that murder [apparently the last listed by Peres] happened under the Likud's rule. The event on the coastal road took place when you were in power. The penetration into the children's house in Misgav--under your administration. The murder in Nayariyya, with the child--and that description--and by the way, one should refrain [from mentioning it] as the mother incidently requested, happened under your rule. Did anyone of us say that the Likud was to blame for this?

What kind of incitement is this? It is both untrue and irresponsible. No doubt, this caused the spirits to rise, and these elections, in my opinion are on the government's record [last word in English], on the future of the state. And they may be the most vital and important elections for the future.

[Schiff] Mr Begin, I presume you have a response to this.

[Begin] Well, let me tell you, Mr Schiff, and you are a witness to this: I was first to reply to your answer, and I did so in a positive way. Mr Peres at once launched into such an aggressive tone it nearly knocked me off my seat. However, the one who pens with aggression will get an answer.

Dear Mr Peres, tell me: Do you recognize me as prime minister in a democratic country, or not? I, for example, have read that you had announced that you do not recognize me as prime minister. What kind of example do you thus set for court colleagues? I was elected in democratic elections, the most free ones, in the State of Israel. Yet you deny and do not recognize me as prime minister. I recognize you as the head of the opposition, even in 4 years' time I will recognize you in that post, yet you say that you do not recognize me as prime minister. The head of the opposition does not appear in any [state] law, but the prime minister appears in the law, in our constitution [last word in English, followed by Hebrew translation--presumably meaning the codex of the basic laws] Mr Peres does not recognize me as prime minister. Supposing all his colleagues follow in his footsteps, what will happen to the democracy in the State of Israel? This is a most serious expression of antidemocratism, and this is what he said.

Then he talked about violence. You talk about violence, Mr Shim'on Peres? Let me read to you the following: On the last day of Passover, I was provided with a final proof that I could be party to the responsibility for leading our movement. If a vile regime had paraded me through the streets of the city and flagellated me and spat in my face, I would not have been more ashamed and hopeless than when I saw our movement humbled and demeaned by itself and not by others. These are the words of Berl Katzenelson, your teacher and spiritual leader after the 7th day of Passover. You tell me about violence? What happened during the Saison [prestate times], Mr Shim'on Peres? You remember it. We did not react by lifting even one finger in 9 months, when the best of our comrades were kidnapped, tortured hellishly and handed over to the British. Yet you will tell us about violence? We are the victims of your violence.

There was one incident where a young man made a disgraceful gesture with his hand. You photographed it. Yet this man is dejected; he does not belong to us at all. What did you do to him? His father has been an Alignment member for 30 years. He has some business with the municipal council regarding his bakery. What makes this election unique is really the verbal violence. You are talking about character assassination regarding yourself? You have been trying to assassinate my character for 40 years now, since I first came to Eretz Yisra'el. Yet I have never complained. What names you called me by, until the day came with Mr Ya'aqov Shimshon Shapira [former justice minister]--called you and your colleagues neofascist. Well, I say... [interrupted by moderator, who points to the fact that Begin's allotted time of 2.5 minutes is up]

With your permission we shall go over to the next topic, to the economic issue. Both parties promise that there will be no economic decrees after the elections. You promise to reduce inflation and to improve the balance of payments, to prevent unemployment, to refrain from raising taxes, to renew economic growth and to maintain the standard of living. Mr Begin and Mr Peres, if it is possible to fulfill all these promises simultaneously, what are the main means you intend to use in order to achieve these goals and what are the differences between your economic plans?

[Begin] Mr Shim'on Peres said that everthing is bad. I want to show facts, not with nervous jabbering but with calm; I will show facts and figures. The wages in real terms rose 13.5 percent during the last 4 years--that is, nobody has lost but, on the contrary, the wage earners improved and raised their standard of living. Taxes were abolished--travel tax, most of the property tax, inheritance tax, improvement tax on apartments. We reduced construction taxes, and we eased the burden of income tax. The trade deficit in 1976 amounted to 3.2 billion [currency not specified]. In 1980 the trade deficit reached 3.832 billion [currency not specified]. Because of the change in the rate of the dollar there was almost a 50-percent decrease in the trade deficit.

Exports in 1974 amounted to 4.743 billion [currency not specified]. In 1980 it reached 10.362 billion [currency not specified]. In the sphere of agriculture we achieved national and economic independence with a balance of 30 million. In 1977, 285 million flowers were raised in Israel compared with 800 million flowers in 1980.

True, there is inflation. This is a very serious problem. We have curbed inflation, and there has already been a decrease in inflation. It is true that in the previous debate [on the eve of the elections in 1977] I said that inflation should be reduced to 15 percent but this has not been so. At the time, Mr Peres promised a car to every worker. Have you already given a car to every worker? However, now after inflation has been curbed, there has been a decrease and this decrease will continue. In the next 4 years we will reduce inflation to a large degree.

There is the problem of the debts. It is very interesting to note that in 1976 the national debt amounted to 9.371 billion compared with 17 billion [currency not specified] in 1980. However, because of the difference in the rate of the dollar, because of the inflation affecting the dollar, the difference amounts to several hundred million. Well, I have proved that the general economic situation in Eretz Yisra'el has not at all affected the workers or the wage earners. The finance minister--an educated person, he knows what economy is all about--has all the chances to improve the economy....

[interrupted by moderator]

[Schiff] Let us go over to Mr Peres, please. Your answer on the economic issue.

[Peres] With your permission Mr Schiff, I would like to refer only to one point made by Mr Begin at the beginning of his reply. The moment a prime minister starts functioning as the head of the Herut headquarters and the government becomes the Herut headquarters, he himself stops seeing his duty as prime minister. If he stops discharging his duties as prime minister I have no other choice but to regard him for what he is--the head of an election headquarters who is prepared to use state occasions and state means for election purposes.

I listened to Mr Begin's description. Does he really live in Israel as it is today? There are countries that raise inflation in order to resume their growth. There are countries which decrease inflation even if it means unemployment. This government has put all the problems together. An inflation of 1,210 percent in 4 years? Who has ever heard of such a thing?

Mr Begin, could you recall five factories that you set up in these 4 years? Would you be ready to enumerate them? Dozens of factories have closed, unemployment has doubled, the external debt has reached $21 billion. Mr Aridor took U.S. dollars to distribute among the citizens of the country on the eve of the elections. A U.S. senator has said: What do the Israelis think, that we will give dollars and they will give electric guitars? Why is it necessary to refer to the senator? I, as an Israeli, do not want to live off American gifts. I do not want shame instead of work.

In my opinion, there is no other example of a more categorical and total economic failure than that of the Begin government. Now, since I am left with only a few more minutes I want to say: Thank you. I want to say that inflation stems from the difference between our consumption and our production. There is no other choice but to reduce consumption, including government consumption, and to increase exports. We will increase exports by means of....
[interrupted by moderator]

[Schiff] Thank you, Mr Peres. With your permission, I will proceed to the next question, to which you will again answer first. In the social sphere, too, your parties have been promising almost everything to everybody. There are in Israel strata of the population with a low income, there are social gaps and there is a distressful situation in housing.

In the educational field too you have been promising a lot. To which one of these goals will you give precedence, and where will the money be found to realize the plans? Mr Peres, please.

[Peres] Mr Schiff, not long ago I was in Yeruham at an election rally. After the meeting, a group of young comrades [haverim] asked me if they could talk to me. I met with 35 or 40 young men, former army soldiers, who asked me three questions which I have been hearing throughout the country: Where will we live; where will we work; if we get married, how will our children get their education? Again, under the Likud, in spite of all of the Likud's propaganda, no apartments have been built, housing costs have risen greatly, there are no new plants to provide employment for the younger generation, and the education budget and the hours for education have been cut. I would like to take this opportunity to appeal also to those people in the country whose financial situation is good. What kind of country do we want? A country in which there are young people with no housing, children without education, pensioners without allowance, schools that are substandard? It is not a question of being poor, it is a question pertaining to the entire Israeli society, of its image, its future, how serious it is. We did not come to Israel to do business [last word in English]. Jews can do business [last word in English] anywhere in the world. We came to Israel indeed to create a new society, a just one. As for your question on where we will find the resources, the Labor movement must change the social order of priorities. There should be less government spending, less waste on services, as well as providing the necessities to those who need it. In short, what we will do is first to establish technically based industry throughout the country. Mr Schiff, you know me and you know that I had such an opportunity to do something similar in the Defense Ministry. I believe this can be done from Qiryat Shemona down to Elat. We will build housing projects and will give young couples the possibility of purchasing an apartment with the mortgage or rent not exceeding 20 percent [not further specified]. Some other time, I will...[interrupted by moderator Schiff, pointing to the time limit]

[Schiff] Mr Begin, the goals, the priority, and the funds.

[Begin] Again, instead of using highfalutin words I will bring facts and figures. We provided 56,000 solutions for young couples. We gave 135,000 solutions for housing to those who remained devoid of housing worthy of a cultured man's residence--all this because of the socialist Alignment. We built 9,000 apartments in Jerusalem and Ma'ale Adummim together. We took 3,000 families out of a total of 6,000 out of slum residences who for 30 years under the rule of the socialist Alignment which, for some odd reason today do not at all mention the word socialism. I am prepared to offer a prize to find that word in the Alignment's dictionary. It is not there. There are still 2,200 families in those slum areas. In 1 or 2 years, God willing, if the people give me their confidence and I form a government, we will eliminate all the slum areas.

We have effected a law on free high school studies. The socialist Alignment was in power 29 years and did not do this. We began with project renewal [for the rehabilitation of slum neighborhoods] with 70 workers, with another 90 due to start working. I saw some of those rehabilitated neighborhoods, and my heart swelled with pride. We have introduced the law on minimum income, which the socialist Alignment has never done. We decided on linking the [old age] allowances [presumably to the cost of living index] the law on national social insurance for the elderly in accordance with the Jewish dictum: Do not discard us when we are old; when our strength departs, do not forsake us. Finally, we passed--at first hearing--a law on overall national health insurance. In the 10th Knesset, we will complete the second and third hearings. What did you do in all the social areas such as these?

Then, there is no unemployment under us. There was unemployment under you. You introduced the notorious recession where tens of thousands of people were unemployed, marching in mass demonstrations particularly in the development towns, calling give us bread, give us work. This did not happen under us. There are pockets of unemployment because of a national and worldwide crises. So we eliminate them. In many towns, I myself handled this and the defense establishment, the finance minister, the commerce and trade minister. There is no mass unemployment here. All in all, the rate of unemployment is 1 percent of the manpower. There are people who seek jobs, but this is already a totally different question. This means that you, the members of the alignment, you brought a grave catastrophe on the country we have tried to correct your wrong.

[Schiff] Mr Begin, Mr Begin, with your permission we are moving on to a different issue, the security issue. After the elections, one of you will have to deal with the sensitive missle issue. Mr Begin and Mr Peres, how does each of you intend to solve this problem, taking into consideration that the U.S. President said that he would not like to see an Israeli action against the Syrian missiles as well as the fact that as far back as 5 years ago Israel agreed to a Syrian military presence in Lebanon.

[Begin] Mr Schiff, you should refer this last question to Mr Peres. I was not in government then, he was. However, I would like to answer your main question here. The security problem is not only that of the Syrian missiles which were stationed in Syria [as heard]. We have a basic security problem, a daily problem of current security vis-a-vis the murderous terrorists. What have we done? We have changed the techniques of Israel's defense completely. What Mr Peres quoted was taken out of context. I did not say that all these cases happened under the Alignment government. I previously said that under the Alignment governments the policy practiced was one of retaliation. The murderers came first and then we set out to strike at them. I gave examples also from the days of the Likud government. I am not denying this. I proved that we should completely abandon [the policy of] retaliation. Incidentally, I argued for this from the Knesset podium when I was in the position. What should be done? Initiative--to penetrate into the terrorist bases and strike them there, to inject fear and terror in them not to allow them to organize and plan. The evidence for this--since the Misgav 'Am incident, and I think that 14 or 15 months have elapsed since then--there has not been even a single [terrorist] penetration from Lebanon to Eretz Yisra'el. Why because we strike them at their bases. This is the decisive security question.

In addition to this there are certainly other problems. I did not hear the U.S. President's announcement as you cited it, but Mr Habib is here. We let him have time, without what is termed final dates. In this I understand we have a consensus [last word in English] agreement. The political process should be exhausted. If the missiles are not removed by diplomatic moves, we will use military means to remove them completely from Lebanon. I understand that in this we have agreement. However, after I heard that Mr Peres does not recognize me as prime minister--and he has in fact confirmed this--he may also deny what he said in front of my daughter. In front of my daughter he clearly said the following words: The political process should be exhausted and if it is to no avail, we will have to resort to military measures.

[Schiff] Mr Peres, please.

[Peres] Again, with your permission, I would like to address myself to two of the observations made by Menachem Begin. They are serious. What does it mean that we had not done anything for 29 years? What did we do then--sit in the opposition and deliver speeches? Haven't you heard that 30 years ago there were only 650,000 Jews. Didn't 1.5 million Jews come? How is it that it is said in the streets that nothing was done? Was there no immigration? Was there no settlement? Were there no victories? Did it all start from a speech in the town square of Lod [one of Begin's recent election rallies]?

Second, Mr Begin you have now evaded the issue. In Lod you did not say that this was under the Likud's government. You created the impression among the Lod inhabitants that it was all under the Alignment's government. What surprise is it then that people got excited? I highly recommend that you return to precision. It is vital, even for you as an opposition leader, let along a prime minister.

Mr Schiff, I am addressing myself to your question now. We conducted policy in Lebanon for 5 years. Did we create such a crisis? What did the entire world hear? A good fence, Haddad cooperates with us. Why was it necessary to shoot down those two helicopters? Did this save the Christians? Aren't Christians being killed any longer? The Christians say today that they are even prepared to turn their backs on Israel. What will we do with regard to your specific question--we will allow the political process to be conducted without inflaming speeches. Here, too, Mr Begin, why do you have to mention Raful [nickname for Refa'el Eytan, Israel's chief of staff] and Yanush [nickname for Avigdor Ben-Gal, the commander of the northern command] and threaten? Let the political process run its course. Such things have happened in the past. The Syrians once in the past deviated from the status quo and we restored the status quo without noise, with restraint, with a different style. I also must say, Mr Schiff, that I am worried regarding Egypt as well. Peace is not completely established yet.

Also, on the second, or rather the third border, with Jordan we reached a modus vivendi, an actual system with the Jordanians whereby they do not allow the terrorists to enter Israel's territory. We are remaining along the Jordan River. I believe that a combination of power and policy, of muscle and reason, will help us.

[Schiff] The talks on the autonomy have been suspended and the moment of truth in our relations with Egypt is approaching. What will you be ready to offer in order to promote the talks and, on the same issue, how do you see the final status of Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip as well as the future of Jewish settlement there after the agreement has been reached on autonomy? Is is your turn, Mr Peres.

[Peres] As on the issue of the economy, the same holds true regarding politics. I have no doubt that the Likud is leaving behind parched land. The treasury will be empty, Israel will be isolated and maybe everything Mr Begin is doing in order to hold out until 1 July [sentence as heard]. I am asking myself the question: Really, what must we do?

Well, regarding the autonomy, in my opinion if the autonomy does not wind up in an agreement with Egypt, we will lose Egypt--we will lose peace after Mr Begin has given up the whole of the Sinai, and on 1 April [1982] there will be no trace left of it. President as-Sadat has agreed that we begin the autonomy in the Gaza Strip. I am ready to begin negotiations on the autonomy in the Gaza Strip at once, to resume the peace process and prevent a total rift. I do not know that As-Sadat is now a very bitter man. He feels that Mr Begin put him into an impossible situation with the unnecessary festival at Sharm ash-Shaykh. As-Sadat has lost his confidence. This is vital to us. Mr Begin's earlier reference to the reserves holds true if Egypt remains friendly and we continue the peace process--and this process must continue.

As for your second question regarding Judaea, Samaria and Gaza: Let us talk seriously. Let us stop trying to make an impression on each other. There are two serious problems in Israel: one, the width of the country--none of us is suggesting that Israel defend itself with a width of 14 km. Again Mr Begin can say out loud in city squares. [sentence as heard] The Alignment explicitly states that the width of Israel's defense, the range of Israel's defense, must stretch from the Jordan River to the sea, and neither Katyushas nor Arab soldiers will be allowed to go into Judaea, Samaria and Gaza. I am not only speaking for myself, I am speaking on behalf of the Alignment.

On the other hand, we have a second problem: There are 1.3 million Arabs. If the Herut Movement and Begin annex these 1.3 million Arabs to Israel, Israel will not be a Jewish state but rather be a binational state--may be it will become Palestinian. This would be the end of the Zionist enterprise.

[Schiff] Thank you, Mr Peres. Mr Begin, please.

[Begin] The end of the Zionist enterprise--at least you could add God forbid. What is the matter with you? Zionism will live forever and the State of Israel will exist forever!

Well, Mr Schiff, I want to tell you that Mr Peres asked me to be precise. I am stressing that Mr Peres cannot teach me precision. Here, in our presence and in the presence of others and the entire public, Mr Peres said something, which is unfounded, something that does not contain even one iota of truth, to the effect that I told you that in 30 years nothing had been done. On the contrary, afterward you will say whether I really said such things. What I said is that we changed the strategy from retaliation to taking the initiative regarding the terrorists. Is he going to teach me how to be precise? Sit still, Mr Peres, and teach yourself how to be precise. Now I want to reply to your questions.

First of all, we have a problem regarding the negotiations on the autonomy. The Egyptians stopped the negotiations. Regarding the meeting in Ofira with President as-Sadat, are you talking on his behalf? Do you have any diplomatic documents? I read about a talk between President as-Sadat and our ambassador after the bombing and destruction of the reactor near Baghdad and the talk was very pleasant and contained a great deal of personal friendship toward me. True, whatever happened happened, but I could not divulge a confidential military secret to President as-Sadat which might have, had it been revealed, God forbid, endangered the lives of our best men and pilots. Is this not self-evident? However, do not speak on behalf of As-Sadat and to not defend him—the Egyptian president can defend himself, and so on.

The Egyptians suspended the talks on the autonomy. They said [the talks would resume] after the elections. Let it be, let it be after the elections. We have a proposal regarding the autonomy according to the Camp David accords. We are going to make this proposal and we hope we reach an agreement.

There is the problem regarding what will happen afterward: Very simply, the Camp David accords provide for a 5-year transition period. During that period the Israeli Army will be in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza, according to the Camp David accords. Mr Peres suggests that we station the army along the Jordan river but hand the Samaria mountain over to Husayn, who will immediately hand it over to Arafat, and then Katyshas on the Samaria mountain will reach Tel Aviv. This is his so-called Jordanian option. However, something has happened and he has not recently mentioned it...

[Schiff] Mr Begin...

[Begin] I must refer to Judaea and Samaria: After 5 years each one will present its demand and will insist on its rights and we have a right to Judaea, Samaria.... [interrupted by moderator]

[Schiff] We would now like to ask each one of you to present to the voters your personal credo for the next 4 years, and explain why in your opinion you could lead the people and the country in this period better than your opponent. Mr Begin, please.

[Begin] No, I will say how I, together with my fellow members of the Cabinet, which, God willing, I will form, will conduct the affairs of our state.

First of all, Jerusalem: We will elevate it to the peak, making it the source of our joy and the sign that marks us; a united city, not given to any partition, without two mayors, without two sovereignties--rather, one mayor, a Jew, one sovereignty--Israeli--the capital of Israel totally under Israeli sovereignty. Secondly, in the next 4 years we will dig half of the sea-to-sea canal that will link the Mediterranean to the Dead Sea--Herzl's dream. I am talking about this with nearly a thrill in my heart: Herzl's dream will come true. Maybe, when the work is done--namely, after 8 years--I will no longer be here, but I can see that half the work will be of great importance.

Then we hope to increase exports, lower inflation, develop the economy, get nearer to economic independence and build a lovely Eretz Yisra'el throughout its length and breadth, not to turn over any part of Eretz Yisara'el to Husayn or to 'Arafat--which means to 'Arafat. No, we will not turn it over. It is our country, our homeland. We want to live in peace and mutual respect with the Arabs and we will give them autonomy, even under our sovereignty, certainly. However, Eretz Yisra'el is the homeland of the Jewish people. There will be love of Israel. We will, of course, increase the number of settlers in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza. We have established 144 settlements, but one can still add houses and increase the population. They will live in peace with their Arab neighbors.

How do we foresee the period? There is a lot, really a lot of work. But finally I would like to say something: Mr Peres was very aggressive today. He, as I assume, has his answers, but I would like to say: In 4 days we will all go to the polls. The people will decide democratically, and then it will be necessary to serve the people of Israel. I would like to say that as soon as the election commotion subsides, each one of us will have to say: And it was forgiven to the entire flock of Israel, for everyone errs in good faith, Let us love each other, Jews, and serve our country and build it with God's help.

[Schiff] Mr Peres, what is your call to the voter, and why do you think you will be able to better lead the people in these times?

[Peres] I enjoyed Mr Begin's rhetoric. I will limit myself to things a bit more practical. I believe that Israel must be democratic; I believe that democracy will win. Moreover, I believe that the democratic system is the one that gave Israel real victories both on the battlefield, the field of action, and also in overall human motivation. I totally reject one-man rule, personality ritual, ecstasies that distort our image, style that makes the name of Israel repulsive throughout the world. What style, what kind of talk?

Well, let us go back to the democratic system, both for our own sake and for the future. I believe that Israel is made up of two things: Land--and the Jewish people need soil under their feet. The working settlement [hityashvut Ha'ovedet], the kibbutzim, moshavim villages are the ones who, to a large extent, changed the predicament of the Jewish people. Secondly, it is made up of the Jewish genius [last word in English] from the man, the pioneer, the scientist, the worker--highly devoted men. My great hope, and this is the second point, is that just as we have established wonderful agriculture we will now create industry that will not fall short of Japan's or America's. We have all it takes in science and labor in the State of Israel. This will do well for the Jews, the Arabs and the Druze.

I would like to say one more thing: We must proceed toward peace. To my deep regret, a nuclear arms race has been threatening the Middle East, and it is dangerous both to the Arabs and to us. I would not say that it is only dangerous to us. The Arabs must understand this, too. We should lead peace. We must act as one nation, with no sectoral divisiveness, without hatred--love thine brother--together with great faith. And just as Israel has done wonders, so it will continue to do in the future, too.

RABIN ANNOUNCED AS ALIGNMENT DEFENSE MINISTER

TA260725 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 26 Jun 81

[Text] Alan Ben-'Ami has this report from the dramatic news conference at the Alignment headquarters in Tel Aviv last night.

[Begin recording] [Ben-'Ami] The Labor Party leader announced the news at a cool, but nevertheless packed press conference, just before midnight.

[Peres] We have considered how to give full expression to the unity of our party, so we shall be able to offer to our nation a responsible united team, to face and overcome the many challenges that our country is going to face in the future. Accordingly, I have offered to Hayyim Bar-Lev to serve in the future government created by the Ma'arakh [alignment], formed by the Ma'arakh, as deputy prime minister, and I have offered to Yitzhaq Rabin to serve as minister of defense.

[Ben-'Ami] The rival Likud Party has made joyous election propaganda of the quotes from a book by Yitzhaq Rabin, in which he attacked Shim'on Peres, who was defense minister in the Labor government headed by Rabin. The former prime minister had said his colleague constantly worked to undermine him, and he would never be prepared to serve under Shim'on Peres. But now:

[Rabin] I believe, it is the ultimate national need to bring about, in the coming election, the return of the Labor Party to run the country [word indistinct]. I believe that this ultimate goal should practically be over-riding of all other factors and notions, et cetera.

[Ben-'Ami] And what about your [words indistinct] remarks about Shim'on Peres?

[Rabin] No doubt, by agreeing to do so, I had to take back what I said about being not ready to serve in his government. In addition to that, I would like to draw a line, not to look back to the past, but what we have to do now is to look ahead to the future.

[Ben-'Ami] Labor Party leader Peres said there were changes in situations, bringing challenges to the party and the country, had led to his decision to call on Rabin to join the shadow cabinet.

[Peres] The problems which the country is facing, they are so serious and were augmented more than ever before. The crisis with Egypt, the crisis with the United States, the crisis of the missiles, the economic crisis. What should we do, continue personal quotes, or unite in the face of the future? And, secondly, I came to the conclusion that we shall do better than the Likud, but in order to do our best, we have really to unite and employ every talent, every ounce of good will to offer our nation the best available team. It was a tough decision; I am glad that all of us have decided, and we can face with a straight conscience the future and the Labor Party.

[Ben-'Ami] Former Chief of Staff Hayyim Bar-Lev, who had originally been named as prospective defense minister, has said he had never been a conditional member of the Labor Party. Party unity and his country's need were paramount with him. But his statement contained one significant little sentence, indicating that rivalries still exist. Bar-lev said he willingly accepted the call, to let Mr Rabin be Labor's candidate for defense minister, but for that post only. Bar-Lev himself is slated to be deputy premier, if the Labor Alignment wins the elections. [end recording]

HASSAN REPORTEDLY ACCEPTS REFERENDUM ON SAHARA

EA261116 Nariobi Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 26 Jun 81

[Excerpt] Reports from the OAU summit sources say that King Hassan of Morocco today accepted in principle a controlled referendum in the Western Sahara. He told heads of state and government that he was doing this in reply to various appeals from African, Asian and European leaders to ease tension in the former Spanish colony. He hoped that details of the referendum would be worked out soon.

AFP Report

AB261025 Paris AFP in English 0958 GMT 26 Jun 81

[Excerpts] Nairobi, 26 Jun (AFP)--Moroccan King Hassan II today proposed a self-determination referendum for the Western Sahara, which has been annexed by Morocco, sources at the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) summit meeting said here today.

A referendum was part of the OAU's plan for the territory drafted last year by an ad hoc committee. This body also called for a cease-fire in the Saharan war between Moroccan troops and Polisario Front guerrillas fighting to set up their Saharan Arab Democratic Republic.

The king, addressing a closed session of the summit meeting, said the referendum should be controlled, but did not indicate how or by whom, the sources said. The referendum would be preceded by a cease-fire.

King Hassan said he wanted a solution to the Sahara dispute that satisfied both the OAU committee and the legitimate aspirations of Morocco. The OAU committee said the referendum should be under international control. The sources said that before the king spoke, Guinea President Ahmed Sekou Toure appealed for a peaceful solution to the Sahara conflict.

A total of 26 OAU states, a majority in the 50-member organization, have recognized the republic proclaimed by the Algerian-backed Polisario.

King Hassan, in his speech to the OAU summit, said he had been contacted on the subject of the territory by many African countries and by Jordan, Iraq, Britain and France, the conference sources said.

They added that during the closed session, King Hassan had called for a point of order and left the chamber when a Mauritanian delegate took the floor to discuss the quarrel earlier this year between Morocco and Mauritania over an aborted military coup in Nouakchott that Mauritania said was backed by Morocco. In the king's point of order, he said, the meeting was exclusively about the report of the OAU's ad hoc committee on Western Sahara. As the king stalked out, an uproar broke out in the hall of the Kenyatta Conference Center where more than 30 African heads of state are meeting, and President Ja'far Numayri of Sudan took the floor to defend the Moroccan monarch's position, the sources said. Mauritania then apologized to Morocco, the sources said.

OAU SUMMIT SESSION CONTINUES IN NAIROBI 24-26 JUN

AFP Report on Kodjo Remarks

AB251234 Paris AFP in English 1104 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Text] Nairobi, 25 Jun (AFP)--Organisation of African Unity (OAU) Secretary General Edem Kodjo appealed today to heads of state to let him off the hook over the question of Western Sahara. Speaking at a public session of the OAU summit meeting, Mr Kodjo, who is from Togo, also defended himself over the Nigeria-Cameroon border dispute. Nigerian President Shehu Shagari has boycotted the summit to show displeasure at what Lagos considers was inaction by the secretary general.

Mr Kodjo claimed he had been made a scapegoat for the impasse over Western Sahara and was being falsely accused of violating the OAU Charter by failing to admit the Polisario-proclaimed Saharan Arab Democratic Republic to membership.

A simple majority of 26 states--enough for automatic admission without reference to the heads of state--has recognized the Saharan republic, Mr. Kodjo said. But at last year's summit in Freetown, Sierra Leone, the heads of state spent 26 hours debating the issue after Morocco, which has annexed the Western Sahara, used a procedural device to get the issue on the agenda.

The secretary general said that he considered the Freetown summit's decision to do nothing amounted to freezing the question until the Nairobi summit. I no longer wish to be considered as the man continuing to block application of the OAU Charter, Mr Kodjo said.

On the Nigeria-Cameroon dispute, Mr Kodjo said he had sent a protest message he received from Lagos on to 13 states. Nigeria protested to the OAU Secretariat after Cameroon gendarmes killed five Nigerian soldiers in a border clash five weeks ago.

Mr Kodjo also said he supported the establishment of an OAU peace-keeping mechanism, and referred to the long-standing proposal for an African intervention force to keep the peace within the continent and to repel external aggression.

No Camp David Condemnation

AB260931 Paris AFP in French 0850 GMT 26 Jun 81

[Text] Nairobi, 26 Jun (AFP)--After 6 days of tough debate, Egypt has won an important victory within the OAU by ensuring that Africa does not condemn the Camp David agreements and the talks on Palestinian autonomy, it was learned from sources close to the conference on Friday.

During the meeting of Thursday night and early Friday, the OAU Council of Ministers (which prepares the texts and resolutions submitted to the summit of heads of state and government) decided to adopt the same stand it took during the previous summit, that is, a simple condemnation of separate agreements with Israel.

A proposal on Palestine, supported by about 20 countries, and condemning the Camp David agreements, obstructed the debate of the drafting commission and later that of the Council of Ministers for several days. The ministers refused to vote and were looking for a solution acceptable to all. The condemnation of the separate agreements is acceptable to Egypt, which has always expressed its willingness to extend peace talks to other protagonists in the Middle East conflict, it will be recalled.

Siaka Stevens Speech 24 Jun

EA251818 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1513 GMT 24 Jun 81

[Speech by OAU outgoing Chairman Siaka Stevens at OAU summit, Kenyatta Conference Center, Nairobi,--live]

[Excerpts] Your Excellencies: In my address to you last year I expressed the view that in the whole of the history of confrontation and conflict (?constituted) an undeniable facts I also said that in the face of unified strength and determination even the most wanton and stubborn of enemies must fall, wither and give way. Thus, over the years, and here I stress, especially this year in the light of big-power [words indistinct] and duplicity, we have come to learn with bitter regret that we cannot depend on others to undertake unpleasant tasks on our behalf. [applause] We have indeed had unpleasant tasks and several (?themes) have been linked to (?making progress) and challenges and confrontations.

When I recall our major preoccupations since [words indistinct] I find that the roster of Africa's problems is far from exhausted. We still have with us the unfinished business of decolonization in Namibia. Our collective dignity still stands affronted by the odious policies and fascism of apartheid in South Africa. The question of Chad, the Western Sahara problem, the swelling number of refugees, tension and conflict in the Horn of Africa and also the state of Africa's economic health in a world of ravaging inflation, high cost of fuel and unfavorable balance of payments problems for most of our member states. These are problems that clamor for attention and solution.

Your Excellencies, it was generally believed that with Zimbabwe's accession to independence last year, Namibia's long-awaited independence was around the corner. But alas, the Namibian question continues to be a source of concern to our organization, for in its stubborn and ill-natured defiance of the UN General Assembly and Security Council resolutions, the South African regime continues its illegal occupation of Namibia. The failure of the pre-implementation talks in Geneva early this year on Namibian independence has left us despondent, but not discouraged. The failure of those talks clearly demonstrated South Africa's real intentions and the passivity of the contact group of five Western powers. We are not discouraged, because our cause is just and straightforward.

In the light of this and in the light of Pretoria's defiance of world public opinion, we must gear all our efforts for the successful implementation of the Arusha plan of action and summon our financial and material resources for the intensification of the liberation struggle if we are left with no other alternative. Indeed, the failure of the pre-implementation talks left us with no alternative but to have recourse to the Security Council of the United Nations to request the imposition of comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against South Africa. The outcome of the vote in the Security Council is well-known as it injected a new element in the whole process, namely, a decided tilt towards South Africa. Your Excellencies, what we found disconcerting, unfaithful and intolerable were the attempts to denigrate and even scuttle Security Council Resolution 435, 1978, by the very authors (?of that).

We are [words indistinct] that a new initiative is to be launched to settle the Namibian problem. The contact group of five yet again is [words indistinct] another plan, which ostensibly is meant to be acceptable to the parties concerned. It is our hope that whatever initiative the so-called contact group comes up with will have to be approved by the United Nations, which has responsibility for Namibia, no matter what South Africa and her friends may think.

It is the view of Africa that the Western contact group [words indistinct] to exert pressure on South Africa to cease its illegal occupation of the territory, an occupation which they themselves have recognized as illegal. I venture to say that the OAU, firm in its commitment to the valiant freedom fighters of SWAPO, will not compromise its position on UN Security Council Resolution 435, which sets the framework for the settlement of the problem. We shall not support any change in this resolution but we remain open to ideas and proposals which will facilitate the implementation of resolution 435. [applause]

I take this opportunity in this august assembly to appeal to the Western countries concerned not to take any action that will jeopardize the future well-being of the people of Namibia because of their own so-called interests.

In my letter to the American President in March this year, I made it clear that maximum pressure needed to be exerted on the Pretoria regime to ensure the implementation of the UN resolution. I also expressed the hope that the sacred principle of self-determination would not be compromised on the altar of (?rumored) strategic consideration. [applause]

In the reply I received I was assured that the United States is dedicated to the principles of justice, self-determination and racial equality and Reagan believes that the Namibian negotiations can still be successfully concluded if they are pursued persistently and imaginatively. (?Might I) hope that these words will be matched by action so that the process of independence of Namibia will start this year.

Your Excellences, in South Africa itself, the apartheid regime continues recklessly to pursue its abhorrent policy, despite the relentless efforts by the United Nations and other international organizations to condemn its [words indistinct] activities. We have said repeatedly over the years that apartheid is an evil system that must be destroyed. [applause] Nothing is so abominable as the maiming and killing of school children because of the color of their skin. Nothing is so abominable as the system of separate development on the basis of color. We in Africa have condemned apartheid and its architects and we shall continue to do so until justice, freedom and racial equality reign supreme in South Africa. [lengthy applause]

Our organization has been engaged in the consideration of measures which will force the racist regime of Pretoria to change its policy of apartheid. One such measure is sanctions. I wish to record at this point that following the (?full) joint meeting between the committee on sanctions and the committee of 19 held in Arusha in March this year, recommendations have been made on how to make the oil embargo against South Africa more effective and also on how best the OAU can respond to the impact which an embargo would have on the states neighboring South Africa. Your Excellencies, these recommendations need our serious consideration. The time for action has come and I would appeal to the international community to join Africa in this action against racism and injustice and genocide in southern Africa.

I was reminded also in that reply to my letter that confrontation with South Africa is only likely to make that country less cooperative in seeking a solution and would also damage those states neighboring on South Africa. My dear colleagues; the confrontation that exists was not created by Africa but by racism. [applause]

The occupation of Namibia and the brutalization of 20 million blacks in South Africa by the South African regime has brought untold misery upon our brothers in the newly independent (?states) of the people's Republic of Angola and Mozambique. Those who have the power to restrain South Africa from doing so have sat back and watched the (?wanton) acts of aggression and savage carnage wreaked on those young countries. Zambia, Botswana, Lesotho have also not been free of the (?invading) forces of the South African regime.

The cowardly and dastardly acts of South African aggression against the People's Republic of Angola and the People's Republic of Mozambique are all manifestations of the savage camapign waged by South Africa to destroy life and property in those countries and destabilize the entire region.

The conclusions of the international commission of inquiry on the acts of aggression against Angola categorically state that racist South Africa's aggressive acts against Angola constitute a crime against humanity, the crime of aggression, and more notably a serious threat against world peace and international security and therefore a crime against peace.

The South African commando raid into Mozambique, which destroyed the residences of African National Congress refugees and brutally murdered 11 of its members, is indeed a clear example of aggression and ruthlessness. [applause]

My distinguished colleages; it is indeed (?up to all of us) to give our unreserved support, not only for the liberation movements in southern Africa but also to those of our brothers who are (?carrying the burden) of [words indistinct] in South Africa. They do so on behalf of (?all of us) and we cannot be too grateful.

I also wish to take this opportunity on your behalf to express our solidarity with these people and to pledge our support for the gallant fighters of Namibia and South Africa. [applause]

It should be clear to the Pretoria regime that the OAU supports the position that Angola and Mozambique reserve the right to take whatever steps they deem necessary to protect and defend the sovereignty and independence of their territories. And we will consider it a moral duty to assist them in their tasks.

Your Excellencies during my term of office as current chairman I have followed with considerable interest the momentum which a [words indistinct] campaign is gathering around the world--the campaign to release Nelson Mandela. It is a noble exercise and a commendable humanitarianism. I believe that African states must join forces in their campaign for the release of Nelson Mandela, a man who commands respect not only among his fellow Africans but also among members of the international community. South Africa in its intransigence appears deaf to these appeals coming from all parts of the world. I commend also the various antiapartheid movements and other solidarity groups who have spearheaded the drive for Nelson Mandela's release. I am (?informed) that this campaign is also being waged within South Africa itself.

I should like to take this opportunity and beg your indulgence to assure Mrs Winnie Mandela and family that Africa stands by them in this noble cause and also it will continue the struggle for justice and human dignity in South Africa. [loud applause]

Your Excellencies; another issue which has, during the period under review, engaged the attention of our organization is the question of Chad. Starting some 16 odd years ago as a purely domestic political struggle, today the problem has overspilled the borders of Chad and the issue has been compounded and exacerbated by a combination of factors and outside [words indistinct]. In conformity with your mandate, separate high-level meetings were [words indistinct] Lagos, Nigeria, Lome, Togo, with the sole objective of bringing peace to the embattled people of Chad. I would at this point wish to commend my dear brothers and colleagues who have given of their valuable time to [words indistinct] and who have continued to aid the efforts of the ad hoc committee in the search for a durable and lasting peace in Chad.

Your Excellencies I believe it is incumbent upon me to state here that although the presence of Libyan troops in Chad has resulted in a cessation of hostilities--at least for the time being--it has given rise to a new dimension of the problem [words indistinct] and consequences not only for Chad but also for her neighbors and even our entire [passage incomplete].

My dear colleagues (?with) enemies of our resources of development and ominous mutterings in the wings, we must persevere in our attempts at finding a solution to the Chadian problem, a solution that will not compromise of (?question) the right of Chad to exist as an independent and sovereign nation with the inalienable right of its people to determine their destiny freely and without outside interference.

Imbued, therefore, with confidence that we could still achieve a satisfactory solution to the Chadian problem, we had the opportunity with my brothers President Alhaji Shehu Shagari of Nigeria, President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamihiriyah, and President Guokouni Oueddei of the Transitional National Government of Chad to hold exploratory talks in Nojamena, Chad, in (?21) and 22 May.

It is clear--and they are saying--that notwithstanding the fact that the Libyan presence in Chad has resulted in a [word indistinct] of hostilities, what they call it is a unilateral presence, not strictly within the confines of the OAU efforts for a solution of the problem--it has not met with general approgation and the Mdjamena talks last May it was [words indistinct] the need to have meaningful and realistic position for a neutral peacekeeping force to operate in Chad [sentence as heard]. And this necessity was accepted by all the participants at the Ndjamena talks.

It was therefore decided that to further articulate and elaborate on this process, a followup meeting of the (?12)-state OAU (?standing) commission (?on Chad) should be [words indistinct] by the end of (?May).

And to this end, my dear colleagues, invitations, invitations were extended to all the parties concerned. But with regret, I have to report that this particular meeting did not in the (?end) materialize. In the light of all this, the Chadian problem (?today) still (?tries our patience).

For having seen for myself the wrecking, destruction and desolation [word indistinct] Ndjamena by the fighting, the people, country and Government of Chad will need every assistance--moral, material, political and financial--they can get to embark on the gigantic task of reconstruction and rehabilitation [words indistinct].

The problems of Chad are our problems. It does not help Africa or the noble people of Chad when states do not refrain from interference and intervention in the internal affairs of Chad. Our organization must not hesitate to [word indistinct] member states who (?for) reasons unrelated to Chad make it their preoccupation to fan the flames of war and of [word indistinct] and destruction in that already badly damaged country.

I am persuaded that our collective interest in Chad springs from the desire that stability, peace and [word indistinct] come to all the peoples of Chad. I am also persuaded that intervention in and interference in the internal affairs of Chad serve (?only) the interests of those outside powers who prey on disunity, chaos and anarchy in Africa.

We must pledge, my dear colleagues that if we cannot help Chad to embark on the road to reconstruction and development we must not make it difficult or impossible for those (?who) wish to do so to do just that. Our Chadian brothers and sisters are not seeking war or the continuation of war. They seek peace. It is a moral duty for us to secure. It is incumbent upon ourselves to look at the Chad problem as a human problem and jettison our ideological and other differences and resolve to bring to an end the deaths and more deaths that are taking place there. We cannot bring back to life the thousands of lives lost, but we can make sure that this tragedy will not continue anymore. After all, the problem of Chad has demonstrated all too clearly the political, diplomatic and even ideological differences that (?must be settled) (?on our part) as an Organization for Unity on African problems.

I want to underscore here that at the end of the day it is only a solution that is (?commensurate) with the best interests of the Chadian people themselves [words indistinct] that can be acceptable and right.

I would however try to draw attention to our reaffirmation last year that the solution to the question of Western Sahara lies in the exercise by the people of that territory of their inalienable rights, including the right of self-determination and independence. [applause]

There must be a cessation of hostilities, creating an atmosphere for the holding of a referendum in Western Sahara. An internationally supervised referendum can usher in a new day in the Western Sahara. I believe that we all subscribe to the view that it is not a military solution we are seeking but a cessation of hostilities and a peace settlement of the problem. Indeed, the tragic fact in the Western Sahara crisis is that it is an internecine conflict and continues to claim lives needlessly and continues to endanger peace and security in that region of our continent.

Here again, I wish to re-echo an earlier appeal I made, that all states should refrain from any action that might impede the peace process and prolong the conflict.

I was proud of our representation [at Geneva refugee conference] and I was delighted by the fact that our collective presence signaled a new dawn for refugees in Africa.

While I am elated by the response we received from across the world, I must confess that Africa remained disappointed by the lack of response to such a humanitarian endeavor by those states that have hitherto called themselves the friends of Africa. Where is the friendship and (?enthusiasm) to participate in the alleviation of human misery? Where is the moral justification for such an action such as the one we witnessed in Geneva?

We in Africa regard our refugee problem as humanitarian and do not attach to it any political or ideological tag. It is in this spirit that we expect all our friends to make whatever contribution they can towards the alleviation of this problem.

There is need therefore to address ourselves to the larger question of how to avoid situations that create refugees. When I look around this great continent I see the deep commitment of the (?union) member states to the welfare of those dispossessed brothers and sisters. I salute all those states which notwithstanding their socioeconomic problems and meager resources continue to harbor and assist refugees.

Our moral commitment for the rest of this decade should be to arrest the flood and stem the tide of refugees. Not so long ago I said that the flood of refugees was a manifestation of past injustices. I would want to believe, therefore, that we are all committed that the boys and girls in the refugee camps, the elderly and the young, the sick and the healthy, that all those dispossessed Africans will one day soon feel proud and happy to belong somewhere and to be somebody.

Therefore, the liberal approach that the OAU adopted in the 1974 convention of refugees must characterize the attitude of individual heads of state and government, namely the creation of congenial atmospheres in which the voluntary repatriation of refugees could be engendered and encouraged by the declaration of the general amnesty and guarantee of safe return. [applause]

We can also help by ensuring for the future that the rights of every African are recognized and guaranteed without distinctions of any kind, such as ethnic affiliations, language, religion, social origin or political opinion. It behooves [?us] that we exercise tolerance and always uphold the dignity of the human person and the fundamental rights of every African. [applause]

Tolerance should be our watchword, for it is not only governments within their respective domains that create refugees. Border conflicts and wars must be avoided at all cost because it is they more often than not that create the flood of refugees.

Distinguished colleagues: I believe that given the [word indistinct] and good will by the international community towards the people of Uganda, a similar demonstration of solidarity could have been repeated if peace and stability had been achieved in that country. The elections and return of a new government in Uganda came in the joyous week of the independence of Zimbabwe and with it hopes for return of peace to its people that had endured much suffering and privations. [applause]

The steps taken by the Government of Uganda to normalize its relations with its neighbors are most commendable. [applause] It is for us to give the government and people of the country all the support they need during this crucial period of reconstruction and rehabilitation. I am sure that you all join me in appealing to all sectors in Uganda to work together in order to bring peace and stability to that country. [applause]

Your excellencies, in this regard it is particularly gratifying to note that the current trend of events among countries in the Horn of Africa and adjacent countries is a sign of hope and one that deserves our fullest collective effort. The countries involved have demonstrated that, given the conviction that problems are amenable to solutions and together with political will, African problems can be settled without external interference.

The recent tripartitie consultative committee between Ethiopia, Kenya and the Sudan which was aimed at enhancing cooperation at all levels is an encouraging development. It is also particularly gratifying to note that the three countries have extended membership of the commission to other countries in the subregion.

Your Excellencies, Africa's development and eventual economic survival rests in our own hands. What I said last year is equally true now as it was then and that is: Each and every member of OAU must strive to adhere to the aims and objectives of the Lagos plan at the national and regional levels. For no part of it can be implemented without action being taken at the national levels and no regional target is meaningful which is not an aggregation of national targets.

Your Excellencies, I take this opportunity to applaud the efforts that have been made to reactivate the joint OAU-Economic Commission for Africa [ECA] Commission. I would like to state categorically that both ECA and the OAU General Secretariats are organizations whose duties are and obligations are to serve the interests of the African people and I would like to believe that the objectives are the same.

In this regard, therefore, it must clear that the implementation of the Lagos plan of action and the final act of Lagos does not call for competition or recimination on the part of the two secretariats, which can only have negative effects to the detriment of those we are most concerned about, namely the people of Africa. The implementation calls for an atmosphere of cooperation, consultation and the harmonization of efforts. These efforts must complement each other.

It is my fervent hope that the reactivation of the joint OAU-ECA Commission signals a new beginning of great cooperative effort and more serious dedication to the realization of the objectives of the Lagos plan of action by the year 2000.

Your Excellencies, I had the opportunity in the course of the year under review to pay a visit to the Secretariat of our organization. I must confess that I found my visit an enlightening experience and an eye-opener in several ways.

I was informed in the presence of comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam of socialist Ethiopia about the financial state of affairs at our headquarters. The picture, to say the least, is gloomy. The arrears in contributions, which I understand amount to $20 million, have made it difficult fo the General Secretariat to operate effectively or to carry out the tasks we have assigned to it.

Also, it would appear to me that the present premises are inadequate to house staff. With more recruitment and an increase in the Secretariat's activities it was evident to me that we will be facing more serious problems in the not too distant future.

It is a matter of regret that 18 years after the founding of our organization we do not have our own facilities for holding conferences, and I must express appreciation to the ECA for making available the use of Africa Hall, although, with the increase in member states over the years, this hall, too, appears to be inadequate. [short passage indistinct]

I appeal to you, dear colleagues, that we take urgent action to pay our arrears of contributions, for how can we regularly meet our obligations to the United Nations and other international obligations and fail to do so to the OAU, an organizationof our own making? [applause]

My dear colleagues, in this context I should inform you that in the period under review I was apprised of an incident between the military forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and those of the United Republic of Cameroon which resulted in fatalities on the Nigerian side. I immediately got in touch with my brothers Shehu Shagari of Nigeria, President Ahidjo of Cameroon, impressing upon them to do all in their power so that the issue between their two countries could be resolved amicably in the supreme interests of peace and stability. I want to take this opportunity to reiterate this plea to our two brothers.

Moi Acceptance Speech 24 Jun

EA251638 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1630 GMT 24 Jun 81

[Speech by Daniel arap Moi, president of Kenya, accepting the OAU chairmanship on 24 June at the OAU summit in Nairobi--live or recorded]

[Excerpt] My dear brothers, while my views on certain other issues will be advanced as we go through our agenda, I would like to mention very briefly one or two specific matters which I consider important and urgent. First, there is the question of Namibia. While Africa in the past has tolerated the initiatives by the so-called contact group of Western power, that group now appears to have lost proper contact. And there are dangers of losing time through initiatives outside the framework of the UN. We therefore call upon all countries to support the UN resolutions and program for bringing Namibia into independence. [applause] Today, we want to reiterate our unswerving support for SWAPO. We demand the immediate withdrawal of South African troops from Namibia [applause] and we declare that we must continue to support armed struggle so long as the racist South African regime continues to defy international opinion and clings to the illegal occupation of Namibia. [applause] The African stand on Namibia is therefore clear and unequivocal.

The second issue I want to touch upon is the problem of South Africa itself. We condemn with (?out) any qualification the inhuman policy of apartheid and the schemes and devices of the South African regime underline creation of the so-called homelands. In addition, and since South African regime has rejected peaceful approaches, free Africa will continue to support liberation movements fighting in that country for as long as the South African regime refuses to grant human rights to all. There can be no remaining doubt that the South African situation is one which poses a direct threat to international peace and security. [applause] No one must be deceived by statements from the South African hypocrites about equal but separate development. I deliberately use the workd hypocrites because, while they profess to be Christians and upholders of a civilized Christian faith, yet they reject and betray the most fundamental commandments of God. [applause]

There are countries at present supporting the South African regime on the pretext of containing communism in Africa and protecting sea lanes to the West, but they should clearly understand that the South African situation can no longer sustain any meaningful safeguards for what they refer to as their vital economic interests. On the contrary, the situation in that unhappy country is a direct threat to stability and peace in Africa and internationally. It therefore endangers the political and economic interests of all nations and groupings, including the West's. More pressures simply must be brought to bear on the South African regime, until the legitimate rights of all the people are attained and upheld.

Recent discussions at the UN seem to indicate that some countries of the West do not appreciate the urgency of this matter. We in Africa should now make it clear that those who support the racist regime in South Africa and its abominable system of apartheid are against us both individually and collectively. [applause] And there are no two ways about it.

On this occasion, one must also express concern about the continuing dangerous situation in the Middle East. The Middle East is an area of great interest and importance to the African Continent and indeed to the world. Regarding the situation now prevailing there, the African countries have expressed themselves very clearly on the matter. In particular, we have said that there is urgent need to establish a homeland for the Palestinian people. Indeed, this must be one of the fundamental aspects of any solution to what is called the Middle East problem and we are happy that more and more countries have reached the same conclusion. The African countries have also said that they would like to see all the states in the Middle East living in peace and stability. Further, each of the peoples of that area have a right to exist and live in peace. We call upon the leaders of the countries concerned to agree on that common objective and thus facilitate the establishment of a lasting solution. We also call upon other countries of the world, especially the superpowers, to work together towards the same objective and resist any intransigent maneuvers based on narrow nationalistic and exploitative motives.

Finally, we consider the whole matter to be of the greatest urgency not just because of its great threat to international peace but also because the Palestinian people must not suffer any longer. My dear colleagues, it is against that whole background and what we consider should be the approach in dealing with the situation in the Middle East that we must condemn the bombing of the Israelis of the Iraqi nuclear reactor 2 weeks ago. We in Kenya were very sad and disappointed to hear of that bombing. As we said then, the deliberate and blatant act of aggression cannot help in the promotion of tolerance and trust among the countries of the Middle East as has been the wish and hope of the international community. The Israeli aggression against Iraq has rightly therefore been condemned by all the peace-loving nations of the world.

No one must be deceived by the so-called preemptive strategies and such considerations must be regarded as an act of aggression and that constitutes a direct threat to the basic principles which form the foundation for peace and security among nations. Adequate safeguards against such truly dangerous acts of aggression are absolutely necessary. Mere condemnation of them is not enough.

The final subject which I want to mention concerns the unstable situation now prevailing in some parts of Africa. First there is the highly dangerous situation in the Horn of Africa. My own country is one of those affected. And therefore on this historical occasion, I want to assure everyone that we in Kenya are committed to the policy of positive good neighborliness. In maintaining and pursuing that policy, we are guided by the spirit of African brotherhood and the relevant OAU resolution on the subject of territorial boundaries [applause] and noninterference in each others affairs.

A similarly unhappy situation exists in the western part of Africa where there are territorial disputes over Western Sahara. There is also the unsettled situation in Chad. In these two areas, efforts within the OAU to find acceptable solutions are being made. The only point I would like to stress here is that we in Africa must do whatever is necessary to find African solutions to those problems facing us. Unhappily, in a number of cases there is outside interference. We condemn such interference and we should continue to resist it. I repeat that African countries can and will find solutions to the problems facing their continent. In that spirit, and concerning the specific parts of Africa I mentioned, the nations involved are capable of resolving their differences in a peaceful manner. Africa expects them to do so and quickly.

My dear brothers, my main objective in this address has been to stress that we are now really at a crossroad. Either we continue with the paper strategies and limited efforts of the past and thus doom our continent to increasing weakness and dependence on others, or we adopt new and vigorous strategies for moving this continent and each one of our countries forward into prosperity and entrenched political independence. It seems to me absolutely clear that unless we can cement our unity and solidarity through dealing effectively with many internal and external hazards, and unless we cooperate in a positive way for faster and more diversified economic development, we shall be placing our hard won independence in considerable peril.

In conclusion, therefore, I suggest that as an operational technique while formulating policies and programs to avoid that danger, each one of our countries should pay more attention to African affairs. All too often we allot a disproportionate amount of time and effort to what are called external affairs with emphasis on non-African states. But it is now quite imperative that we give more concentrated attention to African problems and potentials, and to this end we should be ready to hold as many meetings as prove necessary. However, I must also point out that we in Africa belong to the Third World. We must thus work more closely with our brothers and sisters in Asia and Latin America as we all struggle for fundamental reform in (?adjusting) the international system so that each country and each region may benefit equitably from global human striving. This is a cause which demands above all else effective solidarity in the Third World. Equally obvious then is the fact that Africa cannot contribute meaningfully unless Africa is itself united. For all these reasons, we at this year's OAU summit should devote ourselves to this design and pursuit of ways in which unity and solidarity within our own continent may become a leading force.

My dear colleagues, we in Kenya have an important national motto called harambee. Harambee means pulling together in unity, in one direction. [applause] I could not find a better way to end this address than to urge each one of us to approach the items on our agenda in the spirit of harambee. [applause] Long live Africa! Unity and power to Africa! Thank you. [applause]

Report on Doe Speech

AB252013 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1900 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Text] The Liberian head of state, M Sgt Samuel K. Doe, today assured African leaders that Liberia will always continue to be a strong pillar of the OAU. Sergeant Doe, who was addressing the 18th summit meeting of the OAU in Nairobi, Kenya, said it has been a founding member of the organization, [words indistinct] emanated from the Liberian state of Sanniquellie, Liberia will continue to battle against those forces that have traditionally oppressed mankind.

Explaining the causes of the 12 April revolution, Sergeant Doe told his colleagues that for a long time the majority of people in Liberia, a country which for years has been viewed as the cradle for peace and tranquillity in contemporary Africa, continued to dwell in hamlets and were relegated to slums and substandard conditions. He also said the people continued to hope for a better day, but successive governments in Leberia failed them. He further explained that a change was inevitable and true to their commitment, the women and men of the Armed Forces of Liberia [word indistinct] the revolution to liberate the masses from the shackles of oppression and explotation. The change of government, the Liberian leader said, has not affected Liberia's commitment to the sacred principles of the OAU. He said: in our efforts to promote the image of the new Liberia, Liberia will not relent in promoting good neighborliness, friendship and understanding among nations. We will continue to promote a spirit of brotherhood and solidarity among our nations of our continent, Sergeant Doe concluded.

Sergeant Doe who stressed the African virtues of reconciliation and accommodation told his colleagues that these were the only avenues through which Africa could handle its differences. He then advised African countries to renew their determination to support the liberation struggle in racist South Africa until the continent is free of that evil and inhuman system. Sergeant Doe noted with concern that issues such as Chad, Western Sahara and the Middle East, which continue to remain unresolved, was not due to the inability of the OAU to handle them effectively. The stalemate, he said, was rather due to the complexity of those problems. Their solutions, he said, remained one of the greatest challenges to the OAU and must be tackled without the least threat to the cohesiveness of the organization.

On the chairmanship of the OAU, Master Sergeant Doe said it is our strong view that the position of the current chairman is indeed an elective one endorsed by all member states. It is therefore incumbent upon each chairman to assert positively his leadership role. He is not simply a passive instrument.

Egypt's Mubarak Speech

NC252001 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Text] This evening, Vice President Husni Mubarak delivered a speech at the closed session of the African summit conference which is taking place in Nairobi. Mubarak said that the conference is being held at a time when complicated political and economic circumstances prevail throughout the world--circumstances which require the pooling of African efforts so that [illegible] decisions will be on a par with the challenges and so that Africa's stance will be an effective and decisive factor in planning the course of international policies.

Mubarak reviewed the Middle East problem and Egypt's achievements in this respect--such as ratifying the principle of the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from all occupied Arab territories, focusing attention on the Palestinian problem and laying the corner-stone for decreasing Israeli domination in the West Bank and Gaza by establishing self-rule as a first step toward making the Palestinian people practice their natural right to self-determination.

Mubarak expounded on Egypt's stance on the Israeli aggression against Lebanon and against the Iraqi nuclear reactor. He affirmed Egypt's rejection of these policies, which he termed "short-sighted." He added that these negative developments must not affect our resolve to continue the peace process and that they are a new testimony [to our will] to move without hesitation to put an end to the existing state of tension.

The vice president also dealt with relations between the African countries, saying that these relations should be based on an adherence to the OAU Charter and a respect for its resolutions. He demanded that African countries that ignore the OAU resolutions be confronted very firmly to avoid divisions in the African Continent and to prevent wasting its enormous energies.

Mr Husni Mubarak announced Egypt's support for the recommendations issued by the African foreign ministers' conference on Namibia and South Africa. He added that this topic will elicit Egypt's attention in all international arenas.

TRIPOLI: LIBYANS, OTHERS STAGE WALKOUT PROTEST

LD252346 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Excerpt] The Arab Libyan delegation participating in the 12th OAU summit walked out of the conference hall, together with the other Arab delegations and the delegations of Mozambique, Benin, Angola, Congo, the African liberation movements, Tanzania and the SWAPO delegate, when the representative of the ruler of Egypt took the rostrum. The move was a protest against the presence of the representative of the ruler of Egypt and his participation in the conference.

JANA: MOZAMBIQUE PRESIDENT, LIBYAN DISCUSS CHAD

LD252236 Tripoli JANA in English 1918 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Text] Nairobi, 25 Jun (JANA)--The president of Mozambique, Samora Machel, has affirmed that his country not only supports the Libyan forces' presence in Chad but hails and appreciates it, for thanks to this presence that genuine peace had been realized on Chadian soil. This came in a meeting in Nairobi between the foreign liaison secretary and the Mozambican president. JANA's correspondent in Nairobi reports that the meeting centered on developing relations between Libyan Arab and Mozambican peoples. They also coordinated stands on the various issues raised at the African summit.

AT-TURAYKI: LIBYA READY TO SEND TROOPS TO NAMIBIA

AB260844 Paris AFP in English 0758 GMT 26 Jun 81

[Text] Nairobi, 26 Jun (AFP)--Libya is ready to send troops to Namibia to help that country's liberation from South African rule unless neighbouring black states object, Libyan minister to the presidency 'Ali at-Turayki said here. He told the Kenyan news agency yesterday that Libya was currently training about one thousand Namibian guerrillas who would be given arms before they returned to Namibia. The liberation of Namibia was the responsibility of all African countries, he said.

Mr at-Turayki, who heads the Libyan delegation to the Organization of African Unity (OAU) summit here, blamed France and Sudan for the Chadian civil war, which he said they had provoked. Sudan was still giving help to defeated rebel leader Hissein Habre and Egypt was still training anti-government elements, he said.

Libya had come to the aid of Chad after Ndjamena had in vain asked all its neighbours for help, he added.

(In Maiduguri, northeastern Nigeria, two of Chad's main political-military factions, the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Chad and the Western Armed Forces, called yesterday on the OAU and the United Nations to force Libyan leader Mu'Ammar al-Qadhdhafi to pull his troops out of Chad.

LIBYA

'SOURCE' SAYS SUDAN DIPLOMATIC TIES TO BE BROKEN

LD260812 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0755 GMT 26 Jun 81

[Text] Tripoli, 26 Jun (JANA)--An informed source at the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison has stated that the people's committee has decided to close the Libyan Arab Brotherhood Bureau in Sudan and the Sudanese Embassy in Tripoli in view of the Sudanese regime's departure from Arab unanimity, its violation of the resolutions of the Baghdad conference and the welcome by the Sudanese ruler of the traitor Anwar as-Sadat, who has accorded recognition to the enemy.

The source added that the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah is to ask Algeria to care for the Libyan interests in Sudan following the people's committee's decision to close the Libyan Arab Brotherhood Bureau in Khartoum and the closure of the Sudanese regime's embassy in Tripoli.

SUDAN

LIBYAN DIPLOMATS EXPELLED; SUDANESE RECALLED

JN261050 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1020 GMT 26 Jun 81

[Text] Khartoum, 25 Jun (SUNA)--SUNA has learned that Sudan has ordered the members of the so-called Libyan Arab Brotherhood Bureau in Khartoum to leave Sudan within 48 hours. It also ordered the suspension of all flights between the two countries and the closure of the Libyan airline offices in Khartoum. Mr Hashim 'Uthman, Foreign Ministry under secretary, summoned to his office this evening the head of the Arab Brotherhood Bureau--the Libyan embassy--and informed him of Sudan's decision.

The authorities also decided to recall the employees in the [Sudanese] Embassy in Tripoli within 48 hours and asked Tunis to look after Sudanese interests in Libya.

The decision comes on the same day as the explosion at the Chadian Embassy in Khartoum, which led to two Chadians being killed and two others being wounded. Neither the ambassador nor any of the other diplomats, who were on the embassy's upper floor, were harmed.

In another development, the Ugandan Government yesterday restricted the activities of the members of the Libyan diplomatic mission in Uganda. The Ugandan interior minister told the parliament this evening that the Libyans detained in Uganda held contacts in order to carry out acts against the legitimate government. They also asked help from Ugandans to get runways and airports for use by planes carrying weapons to the military forces in order to resist the legitimate government.

HANDGRENADE EXPLODES AT CHADIAN EMBASSY 25 JUN

JN251217 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1150 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Text] Khartoum, 25 Jun (SUNA)--There was an explosion at the Chadian Embassy in Khartoum this morning. The explosion was caused by a handgrenade.

The explosion took place in front of the main entrance to the embassy. One person was arrested. It was clear from the statements by the embassy employees that this person had frequented the Chadian embassy for 3 consecutive days under the pretext of wanting a visa. It is believed that he was the one who threw the bomb in front of the embassy's entrance. One embassy employee was killed and three others, Chadians who were waiting to get visas, were wounded. The accused, who is Chadian, was arrested.

The explosion also led to the destruction of the embassy's windows and the main entrance. None of the embassy personnel inside the building were harmed.

It is to be recalled that the ties between the Chadian Embassy in Khartoum and the ruling regimes in Chad and Libya have been cut and that the Chadian Ambassador in Khartoum is not loyal to his country's present regime. The ambassador has always expressed his opposition to the regime in Chad, particularly after the Libyan military intervention in Chad.

Libya Implicated

JN261033 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1030 GMT 26 Jun 81

[Text] Khartoum, 25 Jun (SUNA)--SUNA has learned that the important investigations which were conducted into the explosion at the Chadian Embassy in Khartoum have confirmed that Libya was behind the incident. The person under arrest has made important confessions to this effect.

PRESIDENT NUMAYRI INTERVIEWED BY KENYAN PAPER

JN251133 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1050 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Text] Nairobi, 24 Jun (SUNA)--Kenya's THE STANDARD has held an interview with President Numayri during which he dealt with various issues of concern to the African Continent. The interview was attended by Muhammad Mahjub, presidential press adviser, and Al-Fatih at-Tijani, under secretary of the Ministry of Culture and Information.

His excellency touched on Libya's intervention in Chad and Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's rôle in shaking scurity and stability in Chad and the African Continent, pointing out that Colonel al-Qadhdhafi is flouting OAU resolutions and that this is clearly demonstrated in the Chadian issue. He added that while Al-Qadhdhafi is seeking the support of the OAU conference, he is opposing its resolutions and is supporting terrorism in the world.

On cooperation between Sudan, Kenya and Uganda, President Numayri said that the three countries have agreed to cooperate in the service of their citizens. The three countries are advocating peace in Africa and the world at large because they are against war and believe that problems can be solved by dialogue. He added that Tanzania and other East African countries might join the three countries in the future. He pointed out that Sudan and Kenya are assisting Uganda to reconstruct itself. They, President Numayri added, also assist Ugandan refugees who wish to return to their homeland.

His excellency asserted that Sudan is advocating and endeavoring to achieve integration among the states of the area, pointing out that this would benefit all these countries. He said that this course is being pursued by the European countries despite their different languages, nationalities and characteristics. His excellency called on the African Continent to solve its problems by itself without any foreign interference.

On the African refugees' problems, his excellency said that it is possible to reduce the number of refugees in Africa at present, reiterating that the solution lies in the OAU Charter. He said that the African Continent is one big state but colonialism had divided it. He stressed the need for Africans to solve all African problems by themselves. He added that some states are seeking solutions outside Africa. He pointed out that if these states were to go back to the OAU Charter and leave everything to be solved through dialogue, all the problems in Africa, including the refugee problem, would be solved.

He stated that the brothers in southern Sudan were fighting the government but when the May revolution occurred and assumed power, it called on all the refugees in the southern province and the neighboring states to return and the problem was thus solved.

His excellency called for the establishment of democratic institutions in the African states, calling on the people to meet with one another and keep away from the influence of the two superpowers, since otherwise we will be creating the right background for fostering refugees. He called for helping the refugees live a noble life while at the same time refraining from providing them with luxuries, to discourage others from leaving their countries and seeking refuge in other states.

In the course of his interview with the mission of the Kenyan paper THE STANDARD, President Numayri pointed out that the big powers' strategies play their parts in driving wedges between the Arab states. He stated that the current Arab situation can be likened to a bottle that has been shattered by a great blow.

On the call by the Soviet Union and the United States to make the Indian Ocean and other areas regions of peace, he said: "This is not the peace we are seeking. Rather, it is the peace which will enable them to divide up sphere of influence."

On the strategy laid down to protect the region's states, President Numayri said that that strategy not only includes the military aspect, but also cooperation and integration among the region's states in all fields. He added that such cooperation will make us into a force that is protecting ourselves.

In reply to a question on Libya's trends and practices, which not only threaten Chad but all the region's states, President Numayri said that Al-Qadhdhafi is a dictator who is ruling on his own, without having any democratic institutions helping him to rule his country. He added that a president like Al-Qadhdhafi should not rule on his own because he is a dangerous man.

His excellency pointed out that Libya's capital is African capital and that stringent resolutions must be adopted to divide the Libyan oil revenues among the Africans, since it belongs to them. He added that Al-Qadhdhafi spends 18 billion pounds for military preparations, an amount which will be enough to solve all Sudan's problems, including armaments. He stated that there are 5,000 tanks in Libya and that if these tanks had been tractors and were distributed in Africa, they would have done a lot in the service of the African peoples. Thus, he said, we must work to replace the tank with the tractor. He added that Al-Qadhdhafi continues to ask for arms from the Soviets and is playing with African capital, pointing out that the organization must do something about this.

UGANDA

MINISTER EXPLAINS DETAINED LIBYANS TO PARLIAMENT

EA252116 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Text] The minister of internal affairs today told Parliament the circumstances that led him on 23 June to place under police guard two persons who claimed to be members of the Libyan People's Bureau. He stated the persons were not listed as diplomats representing the Embassy of the republic of Libya. They arrived in Uganda several weeks ago, allegedly to take over the Libyan Embassy, close it and open a Libyan People's Bureau. It was done, he said, without consulting the Uganda Government and obtaining our consent.

The minister said that during the evening of 23 June two Libyans who are not in our diplomatic list approached a private citizen of Uganda and sought to obtain landing rights for a Libyan plane or planes which are due to land or were overflying Uganda that night. The matter was brought to the notice of the government.

The minister said he summoned the two persons concerned that very night and asked them for an explanation. They agreed that they had approached a private citizen for help. However, they did not give an explanation as to why they chose to approach a private citizen to clear them with a government institution instead of going through government channels. They further admitted that a number of Libyan military planes destined to neighboring countries had been overflying Uganda without permission. They did not specify the purpose of the flight.

The minister said it had come to the notice of the government that just before the general elections last year the Libyan Government approached a neighboring country for permission to bring in arms in transit to Uganda in order to stop a certain political party, namely, Uganda People's Congress from winning the elections. From the aforegoing, said the minister, government thought it fit that the movements of the two Libyans should be restricted while more investigations are being conducted.

PRESIDENT OBOTE INTERVIEWED ON LIBYA, OAU

EA261116 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 26 Jun 81

[Text] President Obote has said that Libyan plane tried to land at Entebbe Airport on Tuesday night without permission. The president said this Libyan plane, a Boeing 727, violated Uganda airspace and then the pilot who identified himself as (Muhammad Mbaraka) told the control tower he wanted to land at the airport en route to Nairobi.

In an interview with a Nairobi STANDARD newspaper editor, Julius Njoroge, President Obote said that when Ugandan authrities refused to give the plane the permission to land, it flew to an unknown destination. He said that following the incident, officials of Libya's People's Bureau in Kampala were put under house arrest while investigations continued. The president said that no officials of the Libyan Bureau had informed Uganda authorities that the Libyan plane would be flying into Entebbe.

Other sources told the STANDARD that Libyan troops, together with members of the former Uganda dictator, Idi Amin's army have infiltrated northern Uganda where they are committing acts of banditry. Commenting on the report, the Uganda leader said that following the Uganda Government's call to all refugees in Zaire and the Sudan, some senior members of Amin's former army had entered northern Uganda and were responsible for the current acts of hooliganism in the area.

Speaking on the OAU, President Obote said that the next OAU meeting should not be held in Tripoli, because he said, Col al-Qadhdhafi does not believe in the principle of the OAU. He added that the best example was Libya's invasion of Chad while the cordial principle of the OAU is noninterference in the internal affairs of other nations and respect for the existing territorial boundaries. Dr Obote noted that if the next OAU summit was held in Tripoli, Al-Qadhdhafi would automatically become the next chairman of the organization and would be a big embarrassment to the continent. He said the OAU chairman should be a leader who has good and (?broad) relations with most of the OAU members of states so that he can be (?able) to function effectively and properly.

President Obote said that Al-Qadhdhafi had many quarrels with the members of African states and wondered he would function as chairman of OAU. The Ugandan leader reiterated that Al-Qadhdhafi is not a prominent member of the OAU and that he does not attend meetings of the organizaton regularly. He explained that Al-Qadhdhafi does not deal directly with the governments and wants to communicate with other people of other nations directly. The president wondered how he will perform as OAU chairman while other member states believed in conducting their affairs on a government to government basis.

President Obote stressed that the OAU member states would consider another venue for the next summit meeting of the organization. Dr Obote said that Africa was facing many pressing problems and the OAU should, therefore, concentrate on such problems rather than on issues that did not affect the continent.

However, the president stressed that Africa was part of the world and I am not saying that we should ignore events taking place in other parts of the world that may affect us, all I am saying is that our main tasks would be to solve our problems first.

On Uganda's reconstruction efforts President Obote said, this could only be achieved through the participation of all Ugandans and reconciliation. He said that he believes strongly in national reconciliation and that he had no grudge against anybody, even those who campaigned against me. I want them to join me so that we can rebuild our country. President Obote said that his government had been following the path of free economy during the 6 months he has been in power. We have removed price controls and we allow market forces to determine the trend of the economy. Dr Obote said that his government was contemplating selling some of the parastatal [as heard] enterprises to willing buyers.

The only public bodies we want to retain includes posts, railways and electricity. On the defunct East African Community, President Obote said that because the community no longer existed, ways should be found to increase cooperation for the benefit of all countries in the region. We should begin to think or including countries like Zaire, the Sudan, Ethiopia, Rwanda and Zambia in such a cooperation even if it will be informal so as to reactivate economic activities in the region. President Obote said that he was a strong believer in regional cooperation adding that we would like one day to see a railway system operating from Mombasa (?through) Uganda border with Zaire.